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Trails & Tribulations...

Hi all readers,

Well the year has officially reached its halfway mark, and is it my imagination, or is it wetter and colder (all over the country) than it has been in the past. Anyway, dress warmly and get out there. Nature seems to have a knack of presenting herself differently this time of the year.

Well, what can I say – the field price is getting hectic now! But bear in mind that, as our fuel goes through R10 a litre, people elsewhere in the world are paying twice as much - and also bear in mind that the SA government could solve the problem immediately by adjusting the amount of tax paid per litre. PLEASE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

We travelled to Swaziland this last month, and it always is a great country to visit. Great people, great landscapes and great tourist attractions. We will be back again. By all accounts, the outdoor show at Kyalami was a great success again. Our club also was privileged to visit Zimbabwe without any major issues, and return safely home. When the nonsense and ridiculous situation stops in Zim, we will go and explore much it has on offer.

We have some exciting trips up ahead and we also start-up the Bridgestone Challenge after the school holidays. We had a great article in the SA 4x4 with regard to the Swaziland Reg Raid in which the SA competition participated.

Well as it warms up, we will be offering a Certificated First Aid Course, the infamous Bush medical Course, an Intermediate Digital Photographic Course, a GPS Software Course, a GPS and Navigation Course and a Nuvi GPS Workshop (especially for the fairer sex). This all still before year end, so register your interest now.

I am alarmed at the various forums and magazines reporting / discussing the issue around the Toyota Fortuner and Bakkie, especially those which have rolled etc. A lot seems to point to the discussion of the tyre pressure, tow ball height etc. For interest, I include a diagrammatic explanation about the changing of the centre of gravity, borrowed from a Jeep website on the internet. Check it out. Makes for interesting reading. The whole concept around the 'Elk' Test is also of interest.

Well, keeping it short this month. Time for a warm Milo and a good 4x4 magazine from my brother in Australia, and bed....Enjoy!

***Yours in 4x4ing.
Alan Goodway (GP 1796)
Editor (voluntary!)***





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Calendar of Interesting Events

Herewith find events, as collected in the market place. By no means are any of these events necessarily linked to / supported by / associated with 4x4 Offroad Adventure Club, and they are being placed here as public service only. Errors and omissions reserved.

Date	Event	Venue
5-6 July	Outdoor & Leisure Expo (4x4ATV)	Pretoria Moot
25-27 July	Bundu Expo	Tshwane Events Centre (Pretoria Showgrounds)
27 August – 7 September	Pretoria Show	Pretoria Showgrounds
29-31 August	Getaway Show	Coca Cola Dome, Northgate
2-5 October	Rust de Winter Jamboree	Rust de Winter

WWW.ECO4X4AFRICA.COM – Your Serengeti Specialists!

Herewith details regarding the planned tours for Africa proudly presented by www.eco4x4africa.com this year (2008)

2008..still to come:

- Tour 9 - Serengeti Tour – 28 June – 27 Julyin progress
- Tour 10 – Botswana / Moremi & Chobe - 2-14 August
- Tour 11 – Flower Tour West Coast – 16-24 August
- Tour 12 – Kariba Lake Houseboat – 5-15 September
- Tour 13 – Lake Malawi -14-21 September
- Tour 14 – Kalahari / Botswana – 27 September – 5 October
- Tour 15 – Lion Weekend Coligny – 31 October – 2 November
- Tour 16 – Switzerland Expedition – 9-23 November
- Tour 17 - Serengeti Tour: 2008 : 7 Dec – 7 Jan 2009

Tours include Self Drive, Catered, or in the luxury bus we have for specific tours. Contact us immediately for more information, you will not be disappointed.

Alex & Alta - 0825706010 or alex@eco4x4africa.com

January 2008

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

NO DRIVERS LICENCE CHECK-INS AT ACSA AIRPORTS

SOUTH African Airways is advising that a driver's license is no longer sufficient means of identification for check-in at Acsa airports.

According to the airline, Acsa introduced this ruling from June 1. Agents should advise their clients to travel with their official IDs or passports for all domestic travellers from now on, as well as confirm with the airline as to the rules and regulations required at time of check in as per the Acsa regulation. Also highlighted by airlines is the advisory to passengers that when travelling on an e-ticket, it will be mandatory to present a Passenger Itinerary Receipt (PIR) at time of check in. BA Comair has, however, confirmed it will continue to accept driver's licenses as a form of identification.

LEISURE WHEELS, JULY 2008

The July 2008 edition of Leisure Wheels went on sale on 16 June, with the cover story news that Suzuki is back with exciting new cars, and a couple of its famous off-roaders like the Jimny and Grand Vitara to follow shortly.

One adventurous contributor this month decided to get onto his bicycle (literally) and pedal from the Drakensberg to the sea, starting the ride at midnight and finishing some 12 hours later. A bunch of motorbikers had shades of the Dakar Raid on a trip from Parys by the Vaal to De Aar, while members of South Africa RSG club flew to Egypt to camp in the Sahara Desert. Destinations include the Ivory Route in Venda, Land of Legends, and the road test focus falls on the VW Tiguan 2.0 TDi Track & Field and BMW's X3 2.0d Exclusive.

There's a feast of new models, including the Jeep Cherokee, BMW X6, Daihatsu's Terios LWB, which offers amazing space, and we go to Norway to meet the new Dodge Journey, destined for SA.

We meet the white Bushman, a barefoot tour leader, tell you what extra equipment you can add to your new 4x4 and find out by how much towing a trailer increases your vehicle's fuel consumption.

Lastly, an off-road expert introduces his emergency box, equipment that should not stay at home while you're off on safari.

URGENT HELP REQUIRED BY ANYONE WITH INFO!

Hi Alan,

As you have a huge following I wonder if you could assist or spread the word? Apologies for slightly off topic, but this is important. Is anyone from Beaufort West on your forum, or will anyone be in or near Beaufort West in the near future? Or even know of anyone in that area?





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A good friend and three others plus eleven dogs were en route to Cape Town for the KUSA (Kennel Union of SA) national show on Thursday 29th May when they had an accident and rolled the Vito that they were traveling in. This took place some 18 kays before Beaufort West.

They managed to get organized, but two of the show dogs are still missing after managing to get out of the rolled vehicle. The dogs are Rough Border Collies (same as Lassie), and are roughly 9 months old each. We are urgently looking for them.

The local police and dog squad are searching for them yet till date have had no luck. The local farmers have also been alerted. If there is anyone that could help in any way it would be HUGELY appreciated.

Many thanks
Mike Cliff in Joburg.
082 455 9818
optirite@mweb.co.za

PETROL / DIESEL IN BOTSWANA (BEFORE THIS WEEKS INCREASES IN SA!)

Fuel prices in Botswana on 4 June 2008

Petrol = P7.90 = R10.27

Diesel = P 8.45 = R10.99

Not so much cheaper as it was in the past!

Cheers

ALEX SMIT : TOUR OPERATOR

GAUTENG 4x4 and OVERLAND GUIDES – TAKE NOTE

The 4Wheel Drive Guides Association (4WDGA) has been established to look after the interest of Adventure and Overland Guides. Apart from useful services such as acting as facilitator for guide registration and acting as conduit for information between governing bodies and guides, the 4WDGA is also involved in setting guide standards and generally to promote professionalism in the guiding profession. This will be done by getting actively involved in the training and certification of guides and by listing reputable guides to ensure good value for prospective clients.

All current and new guides are encouraged to join the 4WDGA, as this is the only body through which we can be represented and be heard at NOW."

We are about to launch the Northern Chapter of the association, and all **registered** DEAT / THETA Guides (members of 4WDGA or not) are requested to send their contact email address to 4x4offroad@mweb.co.za so that we can get things going and create a local database. Let's take this seriously, as the initiatives in the market WILL affect all of us.

There is a newsletter about to be distributed and I will want to circulate it to you soonest.

SATA TO BE BASED IN MAPUTO

Mozambican Transport and Communications Minister Paulo Zucula last Monday signed an agreement with the Executive Secretary of the Southern African Telecommunications Association (SATA), Jacob Munodawafa, under which SATA will set up its headquarters in Maputo. "As SATA





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headquarters, Maputo will become the center of all telecommunications between all countries in the region, and will be the decisions making center about investments in this sector, which is so important for the economy," said Zucula. (*aim*)

FREE SHOCKS!!!!!! – AND THE WINNER IS.....

The winner is **Gustav Erasmus** from Pretoria. I have contacted him already this morning. Plse can you put his name into your newsletter. Thanks.

Regards

Philip Lutz

Product Manager, Replacement Market Ride Control

PROGRAMME YOUR PVR DECODER – SAFARI 4X4 ROETES IS ON ITS WAY

It is time to move a little closer to your television set and use your Auto tune button on your decoder to make sure you don't miss out on the new series of Safari 4x4 Roetes.

Safari Centre, the leader in 4x4 products and equipment as well as camping and outdoor equipment is experiencing a very exiting time with the filming of the new Safari 4x4 Roetes series. André de Villiers, Managing Director of the well-known Safari Centre 4x4 Stores, and 4x4 professional with years of experience, is the host of the second series, 4x4-oriented Afrikaans television series on KykNET. "Safari 4x4 Roetes" will air on Wednesday, 09 July 2008, in the prime time slot of 19:00. You can also watch the rebroadcasts on Thursdays at 14:00, Fridays at 09:30 and 00:30, Saturdays at 16:30 as well as Mondays at 16:30.

The 4x4 routes attempted in the series is of the most challenging 4x4 routes that is available and includes a variety of 4x4 conditions/ obstacles. The routes are chosen in such a way that every province in the country is represented and viewers can be sure to obtain the hands-on information to attempt such a route after watching this series on TV.

André makes use of a Toyota Land Cruiser "70 Series", equipped with Bridgestone tyres to make sure that the obstacles are tackled with safety and ease. But even with the best vehicle and tyres it is not always possible to have everything going your way.....as André encountered and had no other choice but to use the WARN winch to recover his vehicle.

The viewer can look forward to hands-on information on proper 4x4 driving skills, handy 4x4 tips, information on 4x4 equipment and everything else that a 4x4 owner should know!

André de Villiers recently said that he was going to use his strong mechanical engineering and vehicle development background, combined with his passion for 4x4, to practically demonstrate to all viewers how to drive 4x4 vehicles.

A DVD will be made of every episode and will be available at Safari Centre 4x4 Stores and various other retail outlets at the conclusion of the series. The DVD will also include additional 4x4 tips and information on the various 4x4 equipment available. Viewers are invited to send any 4x4-related questions to André de Villiers at 4x4roetes@safaricentre.co.za , upon which he will reply as necessary.

The main sponsors of "Safari 4x4 Roetes" are Safari Centre 4x4 Stores, Toyota South Africa, Bridgestone, Conqueror Trailers and Control Instruments (Warn Products).





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CAMPISMO NINHO – SAD NEWS

Hello all!!

This letter comes with some sadness.

Our campsites have now been phased out completely, due to the sites being sold and private homes being built in their place. I am attaching a document with the site plans and artist impressions of the homes and layout. Should you want any further information – please feel free to contact CRAIG CLAYTON at the Regent Group : craig@regentgroup.co.za

We wish to thank you all so much for your support over the past few years and hope to see you visit our pub and restaurant (still in existence) when next you visit our area!

Thanks so much – and take care!

Kind regards and best wishes

DEBBY & ALL AT CAMPISMO NINHO

TRAC ASSIST

TRAC Assist roadside assistance teams will help keep you safe on the N4 toll road – call 0800 TRAC N4.

When your vehicle breaks down or you are stranded on the side of the road, you may find yourself in a dangerous situation which compromises your safety and that of other road users. For this reason, and to protect all road users, Trans African Concessions (TRAC) established the TRACassist roadside assistance service - a first in SA.

The TRACassist team has a toll free number (0800 8722 64) which road users can call 24-hours a day for help. On receiving a distress call through the call centre, an assistance vehicle is dispatched to where help is needed. If the roadside assistance team can provide immediate help, e.g. changing a tyre, they will do so. If, however, the problem experienced is more complex, the assistance team will call for additional support, and will remain with the stranded road user until professional help arrives, or until the person can move again.

Look out for blue kilometre marker boards – this gives your exact location on the N4. Always keep the TRACassist number with you when travelling on the N4 Toll Route in South Africa: 0800 8722 64 (0800 TRACN4). You never know when you may need it.

IS THE TOYOTA FORTUNER / BAKKIE SAFE?

I read a small article in the Feb 2008 edition of CAR that the new HILUX failed the elk test in Sweden. Found the following article on the web. As all Europe's Hilux's are imported from SA the same problem will potentially exist in local Hilux's.

Last month, we broke the news (to the English-speaking world) that Toyota's Hilux pickup truck failed Sweden's now infamous Ålgtest (Elk test). News flash from the frozen north: Toyota has admitted the problem and is taking drastic if limited action to correct it. According to Teknikens Värld, Michel Koch of Toyota Europe confirmed that the Japanese automaker is halting sales of the Hilux with 16" wheels. Although the Swedes found that a Hilux shod with 15" wheels Elk-tested just as poorly as one with 16" wheels, ToMoCo "does not consider the 15" version to perform dangerously." When faced with the same issue re: their new A-Class, Mercedes fit ESP to the car, and retrofitted a few thousand customer cars at the company's expense. While Toyota





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has the technology to add stability control to the new Hilux, given the vast number of Hilux that have already hit the highway (hopefully not literally), the money needed to retrofit existing Hilux would make the A-Class expenditure look like pocket change. The extra (some say needless) expense would put the product at a competitive disadvantage/dramatically lower Toyota's profits. But this could be the start if a general move towards stability control on pickups— as U.S. federal law is already mandating the systems for SUVs.

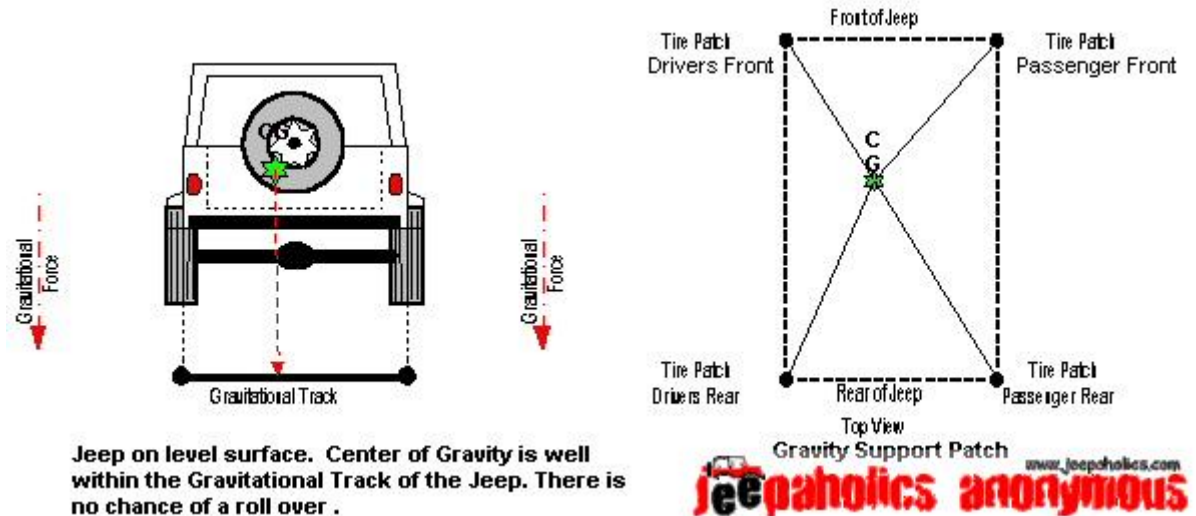
From : [Teknikens Värld »](#)

See what the South African 4x4 community are discussing on this matter by going to the following forum thread... <http://www.4x4community.com/forum/sh...ad.php?t=16814>

There has been a lot of negative press lately about these vehicles and caravans being rolled in leading magazines etc. I found the following good explanation of the cause of roll over due to centre of gravity changes, on the same forum.

Anatomy of a Roll Over

If you position your Jeep in such a way that the Center of Gravity is moved outside the gravity support structure of your tires, your Jeep will become unstable and will roll. Lets look at this from another view, from the rear. When your Jeep is on level ground looking from the back the Center of Gravity is contained between the driver and passenger side tires, or in other words, within the gravitational support structure.



As your Jeep is positioned somewhat off-camber to the driver's side, the Center of Gravity (CG) will move closer to the edge of the gravitational support structure (green line). Note that the Center of Gravity did NOT MOVE in relation to the Jeep itself. (It is still the Radio Volume Control Knob.)

LEISURESURE

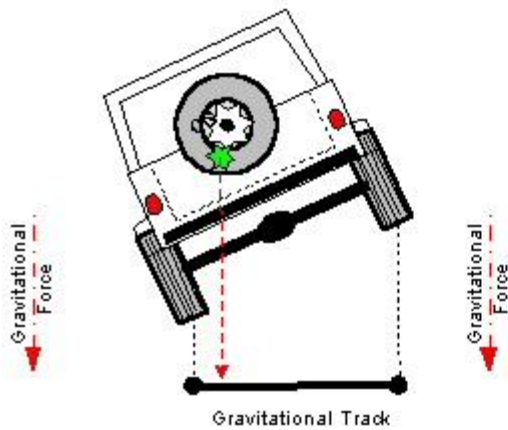
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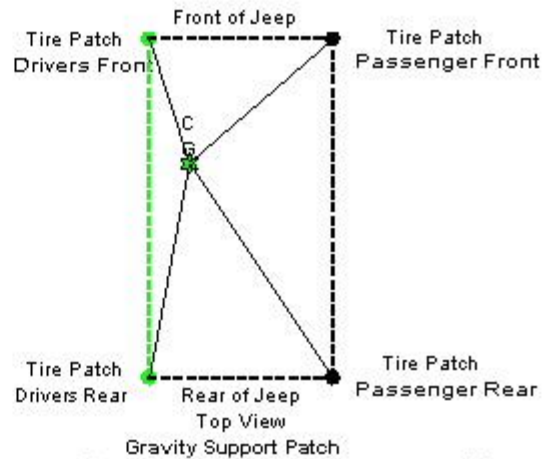


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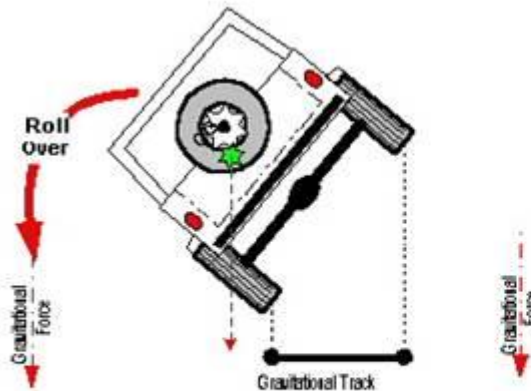
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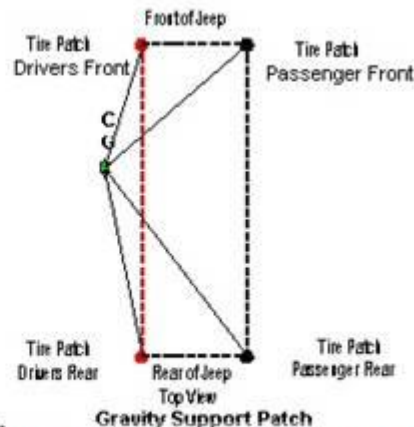
Jeep is off-camber, yet Center of Gravity is still within the Gravitational Track.



If you position your Jeep too far off-camber, the Center of Gravity will move outside the gravitational support structure (red line) created by your tires and your Jeep will roll.



Camber Angle is Too Steep! Gravitational Track is small AND Center of Gravity is outside the Gravitational Track. This Jeep is going to Roll Over !!!



Why do we roll?

We roll because the Center of Gravity is no longer balanced under our "preferred gravity support structure" formed by our tires! This is a basic law of Physics. The Center of Gravity is always balanced (contained) within the gravitational geometry of some support structure.

If the Center of Gravity is moved outside one structure (your tires), the Center of Gravity will be supported by another support structure. (Like the side of your Jeep!)

From:
[Jeep Aholics](http://www.jeepaholics.com)

Call: 083 306 5657
Email: phillip@leisuresure.co.za



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SOME NEWS FROM THE LOWVELD / MOZAMBIQUE SIDE...

SAA advises e-ticket holders to bring their e-ticketing itinerary to make check-in more convenient. International passengers are required to provide their passport as identification. Travel Hub

AIRLINK will increase traffic between Nelspruit and Johannesburg to 6 flights a day from Monday through Friday with 3 on Saturdays and Sundays. has increased capacity and revised the flight schedule for its flights between Johannesburg and Nelspruit. Travel Hub

Canoeing in Limpopo National Park: Transfrontier Parks and Destinations has introduced canoeing trails in Limpopo National Park – that's Mozambique. Mozaic Travel is the booking agent for it in Maputo. It's a three day three night journey starting at the Massingir dam ending at the confluence of the Shingwezi and Olifants rivers.

Vilanculos Airport to be expanded. AFECC, a Chinese company is to carry out the works, which will increase the airports capacity to 200,000 pax a year. The expansion is to cost an estimated \$15 million.

Departure Tax to be included in ticket price for all travel in Mozambique effective July. Taxes will be set at \$10 for domestic flights and \$30 for regional flights. Travel Hub

SANParks Kruger takes advanced day bookings effective June 17th. Booking must be made through bookings offices no less than one day prior to arrival. You must book at least one day in advance and a prepayment of 20 Rand per adult and 10 per child is required. If you do not arrive prior to 1pm, your booking is forfeit. 40% of the parks day entry capacity will remain available to guests arriving on a firstcome first-served basis. Travel Hub

Direct flights from Maputo and Luanda? If negotiations between LAM and TAAG proceed as planned flights could commence as of November, according to Angola's ambassador to Mozambique, Garcia Bires. However, don't hold your breath: the creation of a direct flight between Luanda and Maputo is the result of a memorandum of understanding signed between the countries' two governments as part of the official visit to Mozambique by Angolan President José Eduardo dos Santos on 30 and 31 October last year.

BAROQUE IN THE BUSH!!!!

I found the 4x4 Offroad Adventure Club on the internet, via Google (no surprise there...). We run some wonderful events which I thought your members may be interested in hearing about.

In particular, I'd like to alert you to an annual event we run called **Baroque in the Bush**, which is now in its 13th year. We take over the whole of the Shingwedzi Camp in the Kruger Park for a weekend of classical music, and this year it takes place from 19 – 22 September.

There are 65 campsites available at Shingwedzi (all our hutted accommodation is already booked up). The campsites have excellent ablution blocks and communal kitchen facilities with 24-hour boiling water, making tea-time much more convenient!

We provide dinner for the 3 evenings, the rest is self-catering. The cost of R2 050 per person includes midday and evening concerts for the weekend, camping fees and dinners. Guests make





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their own way to the Kruger Park, often extending their trip to include stops in other gorgeous campsites such as Punda Maria.

I'd be obliged if you would let your members know about this weekend. It is a unique event in the world, and has become an annual, must-do weekend for many of our clients.

You can log onto our website on www.montybrett.com if you'd like to see some of the other events we arrange, most of which have an environmental and cultural flavour.

Please contact me for any further information.

Warm regards,

Kim Brett

Tel: (033) 266-6113 Fax: 086 652-7662 Cell: 082 824-9378

email: kim@montybrett.com website: www.montybrett.com

PETROL GOES UP – AGAIN (DID YOU EXPECT ANYTHING ELSE?)

Johannesburg - Johannesburg -The retail price of petrol will rise between 75 and 81 per litre next week Wednesday, the Department of Minerals and Energy said.

In a statement on Friday, the department said petrol 91 unleaded (ULP) would go up by 75c, petrol 93 ULP and LRP (lead replacement petrol) by 79c and petrol 95 ULP and LRP by 81c. The wholesale price of diesel 0.05% sulphur and 0.005% sulphur would rise by 68.400c and the wholesale price of illuminating paraffin by 54.400c.

The single maximum national retail price for illuminating paraffin will go up by 73c a litre. The adjustments were attributed to the average increase in international product prices of petrol, diesel and illuminating paraffin over the period May 30, 2008 to June 26, 2008.

Minister of Minerals and Energy Buyelwa Sonjica, has also approved an increase of 5.4c per litre in the wholesale margin in the price structures of petrol, diesel, and illuminating paraffin effective of next Wednesday (July 2). The average rand/US dollar exchange rate weakened over this period (R7.9352) compared to the previous period (R7.6434).

Currently certain liquid fuel dispensers in the country are restricted to displaying a three-digit maximum price of R9.99 per litre. "The retail petrol prices in all pricing zones will increase to a four-digit number (i.e.more than R10-00 per litre) on 2 July 2008," said the department.

Pump problems

Affected dispensers will no longer be able to display the full price accurately. The retail prices of petrol per litre on the affected pumps (dispensers that cannot display a four-digit price) will be marked at a tenth (1/10) of the official price per litre which will be promulgated in the Government Gazette by the department.

This means that both the price per litre and the price to pay displays will need to be multiplied by ten (10) at the affected dispensers. Decals depicting "X10" will be attached to petrol pumps at both the price per litre and total amount to pay indications.





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The department said the retail prices of petrol in all pricing zones will be adjusted to benefit motorists, while the financial losses to the oil industry will be recorded on the cumulative over/under recovery account.

"As a result of this rounding off, the retail petrol price increases in the petrol pricing zones will differ from the retail price increases reflected." For example 93 ULP and LRP in the inland area (Gauteng) will only increase by 77c per litre and not 79c.

Sapa

VEHICLE PRICES WILL SOAR

Vehicle prices are about to soar and raw material prices are to blame, says the boss of one of the world's biggest automakers. Nissan CEO Carlos Ghosn told the group's annual meeting in Yokohama today that steel was "the single most important challenge facing the industry".

Anglo-Australian mining giant Rio Tinto has doubled the price of its iron ore – the base ingredient in steel production. Ghosn warned: "The size of the increase makes its effect on car prices impossible to absorb. "How can you not increase prices if the price of raw materials doubles? It's a question of time before this comes and hits us.

"We have no choice but to increase prices." - AFP

WELCOME TO 4 FRIENDS COUNTRY ESTATE

Nestled in the scenic hills of Mpumalanga, our Self Catering Cottages cater for everyone. From activity filled weekends to sundowners by the lake or cosy nights by the fire, you will find our accommodation and surroundings the perfect escape from the busy city life. Ideal for families, friends and romantic breaks for two!

Luxury stone cottages on trout farm approx 25km from Dullstroom. Enjoy pristine nature, tranquility in ultra luxury - fireplace, underfloor heating, DSTV, built-in braai, feather down duvets - elegance par excellence! Each cottage has a lovely view of the valley and trout dams. Very private - ideal for mountain biking, birding, hiking. Fly-fishing in 3 trout dams. Blesbuck, zebra, eland, Black Wildebeest, bush pigs and other small game. Bring own fishing gear. (Quads only allowed if all cottages booked by same group.) Separate laundry area offers servant's accommodation with bathroom. Serviced daily at R50/day.

The Cottages

- Lake View - A two bedroom cottage next to a trout filled dam. One double ensuite room and one twin room with family bathroom.

- Hills View - A two bedroom cottage with stunning views down the valley. One double ensuite room and one twin room with family bathroom.

- TBA-

Currently under construction, a three bedroom cottage. Due for completion August 2008.

Rates starting from R395 pppn. Minimum rates do apply.

Four Friends and it's surroundings offers a range of activities including:





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Fishing, walking, golf, quad bikes, birdwatching, horseriding, swimming, mountain biking, clay pigeon shooting, hunting and many more leisure activities to fill you days.

Also available, Dullstroom Ranch – Accommodation (min 8 – max 20) people in 6 ensuite bedrooms. Prices starting from R250 pppn. Minimum rates do apply

Contact Annette Habig – 0825559772

info@fourfriendscottages.net or info@dullstroomranch.com

VISIT MABALINGWE NATURE RESERVE

Sprawling over 12 500 ha of unspoiled, malaria free terrain in the Limpopo province, you will find Mabalingwe Nature Reserve. Situated a mere 2 hours drive from Johannesburg, this Big 5 Reserve is a place where man and nature have united to create a perfect paradise on earth.

Facilities available at Mabalingwe Nature Reserve ranges from a 4 star rated caravan park for the enthusiastic camper, to newly upgraded self catering units from 4 to 6 sleeper units and tented bush camps for smaller groups.

With activities such as game drives, night drives and horse back safaris, Mabalingwe Nature Reserve also offers one the change to experience nature at its best! For the more adventurous ones among us, paintball, archery and abseiling will get your adrenalin pumping.

Contact Venue Experts Africa on 086 183 6237 or e-mail: info@vea.co.za or visit www.VenueExperts.co.za to Live the African Dream!

TATA DEAL: SA JAG AND LANDY OWNERS UNAFFECTED

By Roy Cokayne

The completed purchase this week of Jaguar and Land Rover by Tata Holdings will have little effect on the brands' operation in South Africa, according to their MD. Andrew Daniel, MD of Jaguar Land Rover South Africa, said existing customers would not be affected by the acquisition in any way. The Jaguar Land Rover team had been consulted extensively before the acquisition.

"We are confident it will benefit our brands," he said. "They will be less constrained and more visible individually than they have been for a long time." Existing warranties and after-sales support processes will continue.

Product ranges will not change and planned model launches would continue but new agreements will have to be signed with dealers. Those who share premises with other brands will continue to do so, Danie said, "as we do not see those brands as direct competitors".

"Our dealer network structure will not change within the foreseeable future," he added. Globally, Jaguar and Land Rover will constitute one automotive leg in the group. Tata Motors is another and Tata Trucks and Buses a third. Tata is assessing the viability of assembling its Indica car, as well as a bakkie and delivery vehicle, in South Africa. The company already assembles some vehicles here.

The diversified group has made a number of significant investments in the country. It is a major partner in telecoms operator Neotel (a competitor for Eskom power generation contracts), a lead





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player in Richards Bay with its ferrochrome plant and and a provider of professional services through Tata Consulting.

Ownership of Jaguar Land Rover SA will pass to Tata Africa Holdings on completion of local regulatory requirements. It will form a separate entity under Tata Africa and have no relationship with Tata Motors. Tata has retained the local executive team but they will move to new premises early in 2008. The accessories and parts warehouse will be moved from Ford's plant in Silverton in Pretoria to Rosslyn.

Eight new staff members will deliver support services to replace those of Ford. Daniel was optimistic about prospects for the brands. In a difficult year for the local motor industry, "our two brands have proved to be remarkably impervious to challenging market conditions".

He believed Jaguar and Land Rover had bucked the plunging sales trend because they were premium brands whose customers could withstand downturns. Jaguar's 2008 sales are expected to top 1000 and Land Rover's 6000.

CROCODILE DEATHS IN THE KNP

A think tank of veterinary surgeons, scientists, researchers, rangers and managers met in Skukuza in the Kruger National Park (KNP) yesterday (Wednesday June 4, 2008) to discuss the discovery of at least 30 of crocodile carcasses found in the Olifants River last week. "We are in unknown territory and we certainly don't have the answers as to why these crocodiles seem to be dying, so we need to look at the problem closely and find a solution," said the KNP's Head of Department for Scientific Services, Mr Danie Pienaar after the meeting.

Carcasses were first spotted by trails rangers from the Olifants Wilderness Trails on Tuesday May 27, 2008 and these were reported to Skukuza. A veterinary surgeon from Phalaborwa went to the Olifants River and found one decomposed crocodile with a distinctive yellow-orange hardened fat in its tail. It is believed at this stage that the yellow-orange fat is a condition known as Pansteatitis which is usually associated with the consumption of rotten or rancid fish.

Mr Pienaar concluded that the Olifants River is the most polluted of all the rivers in the KNP and the system now has further strain from the Massingir Dam that has pushed back into the Olifants Gorge, causing sediments to be deposited. Visitors to the KNP need not worry about their own health as water utilized from the Olifants River is exhaustively monitored before declared fit for human consumption.

HELP WITH FUNDS FOR NOTEBOOKS – A WORTHY CAUSE

Have you seen that advert on telly with a man sitting in a deckchair, with his feet dipped into the sea and his laptop computer on his lap? That ad really appeals to us at Eco-Access – because our camp facilitators would truly benefit from being able to take instant records and photos of our camp activities out in nature reserves.

That's why we're hoping you'll visit our website now – at www.eco-access.org – and [make a donation towards a laptop](#). We need five laptops – although if we can raise enough money for just two to start with, we'll be thrilled!

We don't believe in spending money on luxuries. But laptops would let us share the





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spontaneous and magical moments that happen when disabled children have their eyes and ears opened to the wonders of nature.

It will mean we can inject even more meaning and inspiration into our camps and events. Please [click here now to make a donation towards a laptop](#) ... and towards transforming the face of our famous camps and workshops!

Thank you for your support
The Eco-Access Team
www.eco-access.org

NAVIGATORS FOUR-WHEEL-DRIVE ADVENTURES

Navigators specialises in informative and relaxed small-group touring. Whether you're a seasoned and well-travelled adventurer or new to the 4x4 lifestyle, join one of our guided self-drive tours to discover exciting destinations in the company of like-minded enthusiasts, and experience the adventure and sense of accomplishment of confidently meeting the challenges of self sufficient travel in Africa. Read further for more detail of some of our upcoming tours for the remainder of the year:

Getaway 'Readers Tour' to Zambia – 19 Nights (Livingstone to Mfuwe)

Tour Dates: 1 – 18 August 2008

Join Chris and Getaway photojournalist Jazz Kuschke on this varied and relaxed expedition focusing on Kasanka National Park, the Bangweulu Wetlands, North Luangwa and Luambe NP. The route includes Kundalila Falls, Lavushi Manda NP, Kapishya Hot Springs and Shiwa Ng'andu. The tour ends near South Luangwa. (Maximum 6 vehicles)

Khaudum & Caprivi: "Remote Namibia" – 12 Nights (Windhoek to Katima)

Tour Dates: 27 September – 8 October 2008

Where elephant herds congregate; stronghold of the roan antelope; home to lion, hyena, leopard and remaining packs of wild dog... Khaudum's deep-sand driving and adventurous atmosphere is a great way to open your account on this wilderness tour to some of Namibia's more remote game parks. Follow this up with the abundant wildlife, prolific birdlife and exciting driving challenges in the eastern Caprivi, and you'll understand why our expedition to discover the secrets of Namibian Bushmanland and Caprivi regions is a favourite on our annual touring calendar (Maximum 6 vehicles.)

Liuwa Plain "Wildebeest Migration" – 10 Nights (Livingstone to Katima)

Tour Dates: 1 – 10 November 2008

Situated on the upper Zambezi floodplains of western Zambia, Liuwa Plain is a pristine and remote area covering 3,660km² of grassland and wooded 'tree islands', where annual flooding adds to its rich biodiversity. Our focus here is on the Liuwa's annual wildebeest migration, the second largest in Africa, which usually occurs towards the start of the rains. Zebra, tsessebe, red lechwe, eland and oribi, and predators such as African wildcat, jackal, hyena, cheetah, wild dog, leopard and lion may be seen. With over 300 bird species Liuwa is also a paradise for keen





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birdwatchers. This tour will appeal to adventurous and self sufficient travellers who enjoy the journey as much as the destination. (Maximum 6 vehicles.)

Visit our website at <http://www.navigators4wd.co.za> for our full Tour Schedule, and to view or subscribe to our current Online Newsletter. For specific details and pricing on our safaris and expeditions, e-mail us at info@navigators4wd.co.za. Alternatively, contact Karen at our office on +27 (0) 21 689 1825 or Chris on cell +27 (0) 83 675 3484.

(March 2008)

Hit the Trail ... / ... continues

WIN BIG WITH SAFARI CENTRE

Safari Centre has a **R5000 workshop competition** running in our stores. You could be the lucky person to win R5000 **back on your fitment fee** by booking your vehicle into our AA approved workshops for a fitment. This competition is running in our Safari Centre's nationally.

Just imagine what you could purchase with this R5000 safari Centre gift voucher. You can purchase anything from camping equipment to recovery equipment and even the wife will be happy if you purchase a bush shower or battery operated hairdryer. Safari Centre has a wide variety of equipment to suit every member of the family.

Conditions apply.

Safari Centre's tip for the month is: **Prevention is better than cure!**

It is holiday time again! The safety of our clients is very important to us and therefore we offer you a 4x4 vehicle inspection. A Few months ago one of our clients traveled to the North of Namibia with his Toyota Prado and was not aware of the fuel tank being loose which caused the vehicle to capsize. Make sure your vehicle is checked regularly to prevent something like this happening to you! With a **FREE** vehicle safety inspection we check for the following:

- All accessories fitted on your vehicle are checked.
- Functionality of all items is checked.
- Electrical Wiring is checked
- Condition of tyres and pressure is checked.
- Roof rack fitment is checked
- Winch operation is checked
- Fuel tank leaks are checked
- Shock absorbers checked
- All over visual check of vehicle is done.

The above mentioned is just a few what our AA approved workshops have to offer. For a FREE specialized inspection call Safari Centre at 012- 348 3253. Clients can also visit their nearest dealership to enquire about an emergency parts kit which normally includes an air filter, spark plugs, fuses, petrol filter, radiator pipes and so forth.

NEWS FROM KALIZO LODGE

Dear All,





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It has been some time since we sent out a news letter, but life has had its ups and downs over the last few months. I have been out of the country for the last few months as my father passed away. We have many new guests, who are requesting that we give a little information when we send out our next news letter, so here goes.

Kalizo lodge is situated on the banks of the main Zambezi River approximately 38km from Katima Mulilo, with chalets, camping, selfcatering units on the waters edge. The majority of our chalets are on the waters edge and some are just a little back, but views of the Zambezi can be seen from all the rooms. The same applies to our campsites with a number situated on the river bank, but all the camp sites can see the river. Kalizo is a family run organization and has been going since January 1997, and has a staff of 18 local Namibians.

KNOW YOUR COUNTRY

The great thing about knowing your own country and other countries close by to you, is that you are able to advise tourists when they require information about where to stay, where to go and what to see and do. We always tell the tourists what is available in the area they plan to visit, one cannot say YOU must go to this place and not that place, its up to the person themselves. No matter how many magazine you are in, you cannot be covered by all. WORD OF MOUTH IS THE BEST ADVERTISING.

This is also a way of marketing Namibia, so that our country is visited by everybody. So we make sure that we have full knowledge of what is available in as many areas as we can. All of you out there are more than welcome to send us any details of your place, so that we can add it to the list of where to go, where to stay, what to see and do. Visit our extensive web site, for more information regarding the area & facilities. We are more than willing to help you with any information on Namibia and country's across our borders making for you a hassle free holiday to remember, please feel free to email us at anytime.

FLOODS

The 2008 floods were nothing like 2007, thank goodness. Yet unfortunately they did close our road. However we never closed our Lodge. While our road is closed we bring our guests in from Lake Lisikili. Our guests leave their vehicles at the police task force base, and we bring them in via Lake Lisikili and Kalimbeza channel which is really spectacular with all the flowers and birds and the great thing is that it does not cost them anything. On 11th May our road reopened.

The first day that we opened the road we had 4 cars in and since then cars have been coming in continuously. As usual people have been telling OUR guests that we are closed, but not to worry, next year we hope to have solved this problem. Our road will not be easily closed.

DEVELOPMENT

Our Campers new ablution block has been completed and has been used by all our campers that we have been with us the last couple of weeks. The ablution is fully tiled, mirrors etc. It is very smart even if we say so ourselves. We have put some more small rest houses in the campsite.

We are busy with the TV Lounge, and this will also be ideal for small meetings, for the Birders to sit down and relax while checking out their bird lists. The new breakfast deck and will also be finished soon. Once these has been done we will start on the kitchen, then the restaurant.





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YAMAHA

Rob as you will know is the Yamaha Agent for the Caprivi and keeps everybody's engines in tip top conditions. Even if you should have a problem with any other make or engine, Rob will do his best to sort it out. Rob has now opened a workshop, selling spares, accessories and a variety of Aluminium Boats. Should you need his advise or help at anytime, feel free to call him on his cell 0812354085. Tommy our new Barman is guaranteed to make you welcome and help you with all your needs.

Power will soon be with us, they are just waiting for the floodplains to dry out. We do have some other developments coming up, but those will be mentioned at a later stage.

FISHING

Not a lot of fish were caught in the first few months of this year, but MAY MONTH was really outstanding with lots of little fish coming off the Flood plains into the main Zambezi river. 90% of fishing was done in MAY in front of KALIZO, and we thank our neighbours for FREE Advertising. Great sports were had by all.

We are already catching Nembwe, best tiger so far 6,5kg – Barbel only 10kg. Best Nembwe so far is 2.6kg, but a lot of other species of bream have been caught. So get here fast and improve the size. Never listen to people that tell you we are catching lots and lots of fish, and come now as most times its just to get you to their place. Many of you have taken great photo's, please email them to us and see if you would be in line for one of the big prizes. PSE NOTE. On the back of the fishing licence papers it states that you have to CARRY your ID or Passport, this is stupid BUT they have said a PHOTO COPY can be carried so all of you coming fishing pse bring a copy of your ID or passport.

BIRDING

As usual our Shelly Sunbird has given birders great sightings. The Shelly Sunbirds are now breeding in the kalizo grounds and sightings of all the old favourites, Slaty Egrets, Rufous-bellied herons, Brown firefinches, Coppery sunbirds, African green pigeons, Western Banded Snake Eagle, Hartlaub's Babbler and many more. Birding during the flood period has been great as always, with all Four Coucals, Black, Coppery tailed, White-browed & Senegal being found right in and around our grounds.

The Skimmers have also arrived on the sandbanks. Birding at Kalizo is a great experience with more than 430 different bird species. It is a birding paradise with water birds, grassland and forest birds. Since we started doing our birding walks, boating and vehicle trips, these have become very popular.

DID YOU KNOW THAT: We have the Mafia staying on the Zambezi, One in Namibia and One in Zambia. We wonder just how do they sleep at night, when they spend their life just digging their hands in their back pockets.

Our Main District road has been upgraded and the 5km road to kalizo is now very accessible for all vehicle. We do have DSTV for all of you out there that are visiting us and wish to watch your favourite sport, hopefully rugby or cricket.

FOOT & MOUTH

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This is still going on, which does not help some campers or selfcaters. When you Enter Namibia at Ngoma from Botswana YOU may NOT bring RAW RED MEAT OR PORK, if they tell you Other stories, ask them to show you the letter the Government, or ask for the phone No of the state vet in Katima. IF YOU should go back into Botswana from Namibia YOU may NOT take any tined meat, tined fish, or any dairy product, in other words nothing from an animal, even if you bought it in Bots. We do have Pick'N'Pay or Ok Bazaars in katima, and a butchery. We are more than willing to order anything you should require, just pop us an email and we will purchase for you No problem.

The elephants are back again, last year they also arrived early, yet the years before when we did not have such a big flood they only arrived mid June, guess they know more than we do. We have seen up to 50 or more in the herds, which is great.

OUR NEW PONTOON BOAT SIR OSES OF THE RIVER:

Will be doing overnight trips down the Zambezi River for those that want to Get away from it all and Spend a couple of nights on board our very rustic designed boat. The pontoon consists of a shower, toilet, washbasin, hot & cold running water, mirror, bar counter, wash up basin, tables and chairs. The boat is equipped with all the necessary kitchenware, Guests will camp in tents on the sandbanks. The tender boat that is with you can be rented for specialized fishing or birding excursions. Minimum two nights.

Your days will begin with a leisurely cruise down the Zambezi river, a picnic lunch en-route before stopping on a shimmering squeaky white sandbank, to relax with a refreshing sundowner whilst enjoying the spectacular river scenery, magnificent Zambezi sunsets and getting ready for the evening barbeque under the African clear skies. There are not many places in Africa where you will experience the peace and tranquility than on the banks of the mighty Zambezi river, Caprivi – Namibia.

Experience Africa as it is meant to be. Wake up to the sounds of Nature, the fish-eagle cry, the African dawn, silent makoros slipping by and hippo's call. The Zambezi is a haven for bird watchers, photographers, and fishermen. All our boats are registered to sail in Namibia and Chobe Waters.

DISCOUNTS

Discounts will apply to groups 5 or more BUT only once you have paid your 50% deposit, then you will qualify. So book now, pay your deposit and we will make your holiday cheaper.

REMEMBER

Kalizo is a truly wonderful, African experience. Get away from it all. Experience Africa as it is meant to be! Stay with us in simple thatched chalets on the banks of the mighty Zambezi river. Wake to the sounds of Nature, the fish-eagles cry and the African dawn, silent makoros slipping by and hippo's call. A haven for bird watchers, photographers and fly or lure fishermen, lazy days, starry nights.

From us all here on the Mighty Zambezi in our little Paradise Called Kalizo.

Kalizo gang. Dan, Val & Rob and staff.

Tight Lines & Happy Birding

Val Sparg

Tel +264 (0) 66 - 686802/3





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fax + 264(0) 66 - 686804
email info@kalizolodge.com

MOZAMBIQUE IMPROVES IN GOVERNANCE INDICATORS

Mozambique is slowly improving its ranking in the World Bank's governance indicators, according to a report released last Tuesday. The set of indicators chosen by the Bank includes political stability and the absence of violence, voice and accountability, government effectiveness, regulatory quality, rule of law, and control of corruption. [The Worldwide Governance Indicators \(WGI\)](#) cover 212 countries and territories. Countries are scored between zero and 100 on each of the indicators. A comparison between the indicators for 1998, 2003 and 2007 show that Mozambique has improved in four out of the six indicators. Mozambique's best score is for political stability, rising from 45.7 in 1998 to 49.5 in 2003 to 57.2 in 2007. The World Bank researchers regarded ***Mozambique as more stable than the United States***, which only scored 56. (*the Investor*, www.clubofmozambique.com)

NEW JEEP A 4X4 OF NOTE!

By Les Stephenson

Jeep's gone back to its all-American, 65-year-old roots with the introduction to South Africa this week of the "all-new" Cherokee station-wagon range and a "keep it simple" policy of only two engines and six models.

The Jeep Grand Cherokee has also had a facelift, as we [reported earlier this year](#). Parent company Chrysler set up its own "Camp Jeep" at the Alpine Heath resort high in the northern Drakensberg not only for the media launch but also for a week-long four-wheel rodeo to which more than 1000 current and potential customers have been invited to get down and dirty with the new cars on a fresh-from-the-earth off-road course.

Good move, along with the tighter product list, as the SA market shrinks under the weight of inflation and finance costs and the fuel crisis puts pressure, financial and moral, on big vehicles. The rugged look is back on the Cherokee Sport and Cherokee Limited – cutesy curves have been banished from the latest Cherokee in favour of a more angular look; big rims and tyres fill broad, squared wheel-arches. The whole image has gone more prairie coyote than Sandton poodle and is slightly longer, wider and higher than its predecessor.

Jeep has focused on pricing (very competitive), features (how about a R12 900 huge fabric sunroof that opens either forwards or backwards!) and sheer off-road ability. Chrysler SA's brand manager Guy Franken, speaking of the R299 900 entry-model price, said: "You get a lot of specs on the sport model – and even more on the Limited.

"Remember, Jeep is not a car brand making a 4x4 – we ARE a 4x4 brand and this new model has much more Jeepness than the previous model. We see it as being bought by successful people aged 30-55 – fun, outdoors people seeking adventure." Here's what they'll be paying:

Cherokee Sport 2.8 CRD a/t - R349 900

Cherokee Sport 2.8 CRD - R339 900

Cherokee Ltd 2.8 CRD a/t - R369 900

Cherokee Ltd 2.8 CRD - R359 900

Cherokee Sport 3.7 a/t - R299 900

Cherokee Limited 3.7 a/t - R319 900





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Optional extras

18" Alloy wheels - R3 500

Metallic paint - R1 500

MyGIG - R14 900

Sky slider folding roof - R12 900

Sunroof - R10 000

Jeep SA's MD, David Elmore, was also very enthusiastic about "our most important launch of all". "The Cherokee is our best-seller in South Africa and this time we've gone chunkier to re-evolve the Jeep feeling of the past 65 years – we're proud of our new entry into the market."

While some serious off-roaders might balk at the amount of electricery involved in the low/high-range all-wheel drive, all-wheel traction control and a much higher-tech hill-descent control than on its competitors, I'd guess most will be in favour of switches instead of shifters.

They proved their worth on the Retief's Pass trail, a four-hour 4x4 mountain trek involving severe gradients; low-range – pause, neutral, flick a switch on the floor console, engage gear and off you go again. High 4x4 is just as easy and, when you're all done, swop to rear-wheel drive and save on fuel.

It's called Selec-Trac II and Jeep describes it as a full-time all-wheel-drive system that anticipates and prevents wheelspin before it occurs. "It's ideal for a wide range of road settings," the automaker says, "including dry pavement conditions to which conventional part-time all-wheel-drive systems might not be suited."

The Cherokee has plenty of ground clearance, underbody armour for the delicate bits such as transmission cases and differentials (they took some solid thumps on Mnr Retief's trans-mountain highway) and (clever one, this) the lip of the front air dam can be removed, quickly and without spanners, if the going is expected to get tough.

Either engine – 3.7-litre petrol or 2.8-litre turbodiesel – will get you anywhere the tyres can get traction. The bigger unit only comes with a four-speed auto plus high/low range, the diesel has a choice of six-speed manual or five-speed auto (with manual override) and the same high/low all-wheel drive.

The 3.7-litre, single overhead cam engine V6 produces 151kW at 5200rpm and 314Nm of torque at 4000rpm and is controlled by an electronic throttle – rather old hat as engines go. I'd take the 2.8-litre, quad-valve turbodiesel for its superior torque and better fuel economy. Jeep quotes 130kW at 3800rpm and a whopping 460Nm from only 2100rpm and backs those figures up with a tank range of 725km and a "best-in-class" towing capacity of 2800kg.

I drove an auto diesel over Retief's Pass; the box holds the selected gear (manual selection, sideways action, from the floor shifter) and, even in second and third, made easy meat of the steep ascents. I scorned the (standard) electronic "hill-descent" control – engine compression in first-gear low range easily kept speed well below walking pace even on the steepest descents.

The diesel is also quiet (well, from in the cabin); Jeep has used eight counterweights on the steel crankshaft and a more rigid oil pan.





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The Cherokee Limited has single-colour leather on the seats, transmission shifter, parking brake lever and grab-handles. The sport model comes with stain-resistant cloth upholstery but both models' rear and front passenger seats split 60/40 to fold-flat and increase luggage space – helped further by the spare wheel being moved from the boot to under the chassis. The rear seats can also be reclined for a long-journey doze.

Rain-sensing wipers, express-up/down windows, seat-adjustment memories, high-end audio and power mirrors have been added to the equipment list, along with auto aircon, tilt steering column, fog lights and alloy wheels.

Both Cherokee models have a new two-tone instrument panel with a four-gauge cluster. The centre stack – black on the Sport and silver on Limited–houses the auto aircon controls, vents, radio and switch bank. For the first time, the Limited will now be available with eight premium speakers and a sub-woofer.

A MyGIG multimedia system is available with satnav, audio, and communication. Either voice commands or a 6.5-inch touch-screen direct the features and Gracenote music-file management will display all audio and CD information. There's also a voice-memo recorder.

The voice dialogue system recognises more than 100 000 words and the satnav has two and three-dimensional map displays. So, when you get your Jeep and head for the 'berg as I did, you too can make the hills alive with the sound of music...

SPRIT OF AFRICA COMPETITION 2008

Zwartkop, Pretoria – Competitors in the early part of the elimination phase of the Spirit of Africa Trophy 4x4 driving competition have given the new-look format an overwhelming thumbs-up. That's the news from event organiser and road and rally star Sarel van der Merwe, ensconced at his rustic bush camp 20 kilometres outside Manguzi near Kosi Bay, deep in the northern Kwa-Zulu Natal bush. By the end of May, four groups of 16 competitors had been through Sarel's new set of challenges, the consensus being that it is more difficult and demanding than ever before.

The 2008 Spirit of Africa Trophy kicked off on Friday May 23, with the head induna of the region, Israel Tembe, welcoming the guests. The opening ceremony was also attended by representatives of Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Mitsubishi Motors, and the media. "Induna Tembe made it clear that the local community is happy to have the competition being run in the area and sees it as a great opportunity to promote the region," says Sarel, while regrouping and taking a deep breath between the third and fourth groups of competitors. "The Spirit of Africa will see about 700 visitors in total pass through what is still a largely unspoilt and uncharted area of the province. Many of those are explorers by nature and no doubt they'll be back."

Competitors are enjoying the sunny climate and warm night time temperatures, with the central boma of the tented camp the hub of activity after hours. The shift from the West to the East coast of Africa has also changed the demographics of the competitors (more from KZN and the Lowveld areas and less from the Western Cape) but Sarel estimates that about 40 percent of them have entered the Spirit competition before.

Revisions to the scoring system have also been welcomed says Sarel, who now sets target times for each group with the points allocation determined by how much slower (or faster) than his





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target time they are. Some of the exercises place a greater emphasis on the skill of the navigator too. These factors are expected to result in an even higher standard of teams reaching the final, scheduled to take place in Mozambique from August 15 at Bilene, south of Xai-Xai in Mozambique. The winners will walk off with an all-expenses paid trip to the start of any motorsport event in the world – not to mention 'The Trophy'.

As in 2007, competitors are using standard Mitsubishi Triton 2,5 Di-D 4x4 double cabs, which are proving as adept and capable in the thick green bush of KZN as they did in the deserts of Namibia. "Once again the Tritons have exceeded our expectations," confirms Sarel. "The instant torque of the 2,5-litre turbodiesel combined with the excellent grip and traction of the advanced 4x4 system is perfect for this kind of driving, while the comfort of the cabin is also welcome when the temperatures head towards 30 degrees!"

VISIT LESOTHO WITH MALEALEA LODGE

Malealea is situated in a remote part of Western Lesotho, breathtaking in its beauty and a chance to experience traditional Basotho life.

Lesotho is a world without fences. Breathtaking scenery abounds and every season has unique attractions. Malealea Lodge is run by the Jones Family, Mick & Di Jones both born in Lesotho and credited with more local knowledge than anyone. Jacqui, Glenn and Debbie Jones grew up in Lesotho and Michael Deutschmann have joined the team. Various Basotho Children's choirs and a Local Basotho Band, using their local home-made instruments, entertain the guests in the evenings around a campfire.

A Memorable Holiday at Malealea

- Outings range from 1 hour to 6 days or longer tailor-made to your requirements.
- The treks are usually about 7 hours each day. No riding experience is necessary.
- The huts and horses are hired from the Basotho people in remote areas.
- The huts are very basic and are equipped with a gas cooker, cooking & eating utensils, mattresses on the floor. On trek you experience "THE REAL AFRICA".
- The trails traverse spectacular mountain passes and some of Lesotho's highest waterfalls exploring Bushman paintings and experiencing "Basotho culture".
- Basotho Guides and a packhorse accompany the treks.
- Treks & trails are tailor made to suit your requirements.
- All is flexible and can be arranged at a moments notice.

Specialised Outings at Malealea

- Local Museum & School Visit.
- Village Walks and Garden Project.
- Sangoma - Traditional Healer appointment.
- Local Childrens Choir & Band

Day Hikes & Pony Treks

- Botsoela Waterfall Hike, Pony Trek or Scenic Drive
- The Pitseng Canyon & Rockpool Hike
- The Bushman Paintings & Echo Cave Hike or Pony Trek
- The "Gates of Paradise Pass" hike along the ridge of the Matelile Ridge Hikers: Take the "donkey work" out of backpacking by hiring horses to carry your luggage

Overnight Pony Trek & Hiking Trails Routes:

- The Ribaneng Waterfall Trek - 2 days and 1 night in a village





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- The Ribaneng & Mountain Pass Trek 3 days & 2 nights in villages.
- The Ribaneng & Ketane Waterfall Trek - 4 days & 3 nights in villages.
- The Ribaneng, Ketane & Maletsunyane Trek - 5 days & 4 nights in villages
- Ribaneng, Ketane & Maletsunyane Trek - 6 days & 5 nights in villages

Lesotho adventures start at Malealea, exploring the day outings before travelling across the country. Companions can be arranged at Malealea to accompany your trip, introducing you to local chiefs, helping in locating night camping sites, and ensuring your safety.

MALEALEA OFFERS "LESOTHO IN A NUTSHELL" MALEALEA IS PERFECT FOR A 2 or 3 DAY STAY EN-ROUTE FROM JOHANNESBURG TO THE CAPE. Malealea is situated in Lesotho, near the town of Wepener & Bloemfontein side of the Free State.

PLUS 2 Moorosi Chalets & a 2 bedroom Unit for the adventurous traveller to add a couple of days in Southern Lesotho – Quthing area.

SA Contact - no telephones at Malealea - Tel: +27 (082) 552-4215 all day - Fax: +27 (0) 866 481-815 - malealea@mweb.co.za | PO Box 27974, Danhof, Bloemfontein, 9310, RSA

TO LOSE TOUCH WITH NATURE IS TO LOSE TOUCH WITH THE ESSENCE OF LIFE

My family and friends camped at Rooihoek site No's 2 & 3 during the last long weekend from the 13th to the 16th June 2008 during which time we were visited by park rangers on the morning of the 14th and then later by a honorary ranger, both of whom checked our bookings and asked how we managed to access the campsite as the gate was supposedly locked. Fortunately for us the gate had not been locked. We were not given the lock code by reservations prior to our departure. The occupants of campsite No 1 were in the same boat as they were not given the code to the gate.

The honorary ranger asked us if we were having problems with the baboons, which we were not. We found that the baboons kept their distance. He proceeded in giving us good advice by warning us that the baboons will pay our campsite a visit if we were to leave the site. He advised us to ensure all food stuff and valuables were secure and most importantly to leave our tents open.

Prior to going to bed we applied the same principal and made sure that our dustbins were not accessible mainly by the monkeys as they had the habit of watching our every move and took opportunities when they became available.

The positive side to camping with monkeys other than the entertainment factor, it forces you to keep your campsite constantly tidy. The monkeys soon lost interest but kept a constant watch.

During this period the baboons continued to keep their distance whilst we were in the camp site, however, they did raid campsite No 1 whilst the occupants were away, the baboons got away dented egos and no spoils. On inspection of the campsite after the raid, nothing had been damaged as the occupants had obviously been given the same instructions and left their tents open.





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At daybreak on the 16th, a baboon entered our campsite and tried to gain access to our dustbin bags, he was dismissed with hearty shouts. It became obvious that the baboon went on to raid campsite No 6 and was successful at gaining access to the dustbin bag. The baboon was shot and killed by the occupants of the campsite, who was none other than the honorary ranger, he obviously did not follow his own advice and declared that the baboon was a pest and therefore needed to be disposed of. He also declared that the baboon was more than likely going to become a threat to future campers.

Although I am against the destruction of wild life for whatever reason and believe that there are alternative solutions. To shoot animals whilst the campsite is occupied is totally irresponsible and the likelihood of getting a favorable response when these issues are controversial and sensitive; it creates distrust as to the caliber of our conservators employed and to those who employ them.

I strongly believe that it is your responsibility as nature conservation authorities to be the parks stewards and not its plunderers. If you cannot live and teach users of our nature reserves to live in perfect harmony with the eco systems and its wild life you should not be in office. How many people do you really believe read your web site to educate themselves with the do's and don'ts when visiting the Baviaanskloof especially when it comes to feeding animals and the disastrous end result.

What should be common sense to us may be cute to others. When human interactions with animals go wrong, remove and relocate the offender before it becomes too late.

Our new South Africa constitution suggests that the environmental rights and human rights are of equal importance. So what gives you the right to freely destroy animals that you consider pests when we are invading their habitat and at what point do you stop?

With regards to the campsite:-

Unless a bush camp is controlled and looked after meticulously to ensure that the site remains clean at all times the site will have a negative effect on the eco system. To think that a bush camp is a cheap option to offer visitors because it does not have to be maintained, this mindset has to be debated. Rooihoek is sufficient proof that the lack of maintenance and proper facilities has created environmental and animal behavior problems that requires attention. A good example is the long drop, because it is not maintained campers prefer to use the bush around the campsite to do their business, with unsavory results. Rubbish that is disposed of in the surrounding bush can only have been encouraged by the lack of facilities, such as baboon proof dustbins and ash bins.

In all honesty, what do you expect campers to do with their trash? Store it in their tents? Perhaps the Prado will do..... What about the bikers?... oh yes they can store their trash in their helmets or perhaps they should be banned altogether as they have no facilities to transport trash away.... interesting thought. Or lack of it.

As eco campers we like to believe that our campsite is left clean for other users, unfortunately we have never experienced the same and are of the opinion that campers in general have no camp etiquette. From what we have experienced most campers do not consider camp fire ash together with cigarette butts and bottle tops as litter. Personally I believe that harsh control methods need to be put into place perhaps going to the extreme of blacklisting offenders. But firstly users of the facilities need to be educated.





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As a suggestion if it comes to affordability, I am positive that I could arrange enough support from our local 4 wheel drive club as a start, to maintain and provide facilities to the campsites and to capture and relocate offending animals. We enjoy the Baviaans because of the close to nature experience and would hate to see radical changes made, with a bit of effort and forethought changes would certainly complement if not enhance the experience.

Kind Regards
Carey Swanepoel

CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

Berg, Bush and Beach. KwaZulu-Natal has an abundance of all three and the best thing is the variety visitors will find in each of these areas. Whether it is remote mountain valleys in the uKhahlamba Drakensberg Park, the evocative scents, sights or sounds of the wilderness in the Hluhluwe iMfolozi Park, or the long golden Indian Ocean beaches that border the isiMangaliso Wetland Park, the choices are endless. Situated in each of these areas are centres of special interest that will enhance your holiday by interpreting the ecosystems around you. In the mountains at Cathedral Peak is the Didima San Rock Art Centre. Dedicated to the art of South Africa's "First People", the climax is a stunning sound and light show.

On the edge of the wilderness in iMfolozi Game Reserve is the Centenary Capture Centre. Featuring a game capture museum, an audio visual theatre and a well stocked Take-Away, it is well worth a visit. Situated next to the capture bomas, visitors may visit these during the capture season when a variety of animals are held for translocation and auction. Between the bustling town of St Lucia and the isiMangaliso Wetland Park's Eastern Shores is a centre dedicated the breeding and conservation of the Nile crocodile. There are also breeding pairs of the endangered West African Dwarf and Long Snouted Crocodiles. Learn about these ancient saurians in the interpretive centre and as you walk through the landscaped ponds and pens.

TEST DRIVE A HUMMER THE REAL WAY!!!!

General Motors SA is offering the public who qualify an opportunity to experience the H3 Hummer for themselves. Bob Smith, Hummer brand manager, said: "An increasing number of H3 owners are appreciating that their vehicle has a lot more to offer than suburban pavement hopping.

"Our Hummer Extreme Experience unlocks a whole new world of adventure possibilities as we demonstrate the extreme capabilities of the car. We've now decided to expand this initiative to enthusiasts who are thinking of buying a Hummer." The Extreme Experience is being run under the auspices of the well-known Driving Dynamics team and elements of the course include 4x4 driving skills, basic recovery techniques and environment conservation.

To qualify for a place, visit your nearest Hummer dealership at one of these centres:

Bloemfontein – Premier auto
Cape Town – Reeds N1 City
Pretoria – McCarthy Menlyn
Bruma – Barloword
Fourways – Williams Hunt
Port Elizabeth – Williams Hunt
Nelspruit – Westvaal
Pinetown – Key

LEISURESURE
OUTDOOR INSURANCE PRODUCTS
Call: 083 306 5657
Email: phillip@leisuresure.co.za



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Terms and conditions apply and places on the Extreme Experience are subject to availability.

DID YOU KNOW THIS ABOUT OUR FLAG?

By good fortune we have acquired a national flag that the entire country can identify with and support. The 14th of June is international Flag Day and though you might wonder what this has to do with conservation, I like to think it represents the biological and cultural diversity of our wonderful country. After a national competition which had 7000 entries, none of which was acceptable, and an attempt to get an acceptable flag from the 6 front runners, the former State Herald, Mr. Fred Brownell was asked to produce an interim flag a few weeks before the 27th of April 1994. So well did he do, that this instantly recognisable flag, has become our permanent national flag.

It is the only national flag with six colours which were taken from the primary colours of the flags that make up our history. Red, white and blue from the British and Dutch flags and black, green and gold from the flags of the liberation movements like the ANC, Inkhatha and the PAC. The form of the flag suggests convergence from diversity and though the colours are not supposed to represent any specific thing, they certainly mirror the wonderful vibrant colours of our African landscape.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH: SAVE FUEL, SAVE RAND

With the soaring cost of petrol and diesel hammering many business and personal budgets, it makes sense to cut consumption in every way possible. The good news is that you can save as much as 25% - and that's a lot of money these days!

Be wary of some of the advice you will find on the Internet (and in e-mails currently circulating, which purport to emanate from "petroleum industry" professionals). Rather go to sites such as these: -

- The City of Cape Town has a quick list of fuel-saving tips on its website at <http://www.capetown.gov.za/en/EnvironmentalResourceManagement/tips/Pages/FuelSavingTips.aspx>.
- For more detailed ideas, go to www.gaspump-tips.co.za and www.save-petrol.co.uk (but ignore the advice to "shop around" for the best deal - regrettably, petrol prices are still regulated in SA).

Source (LawDotNews letter May/June)

PUSH-BUTTON, ALL-ROAD PERFECTION

By Peta Lee

Here's a big thought for all those hairy, knuckle-dragging Neanderthals who think girls can't drive: we can, and not just on tar. Real women can even do Sani Pass in the ice and snow... so take that! OK, so I cheated, because I was going up the hill in a Land Rover Discovery 3 TDV6 HSE and that's a car that shrieks for niks, as they say in the classics.

We could see the snow on the peaks as we went through the South African border post at the bottom. Only when we were halfway up did we realise it was a lot closer than we'd anticipated and, when we met vehicles coming down whose drivers told us they couldn't make it up because of ice and snow on the road, I admit to a slight increase in heart rate.

Should I or shouldn't I go back? Hell no, said my co-driver, as she reminded me of the snow





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setting on this amazing vehicle. We'd already, with one push of a button, raised the suspension so the car would clear the jagged rocks and boulders more easily on the ascent. So now, with one twist of the knob in the centre console, I switched on snow-mode... and for good measure popped the low-range button.

The Landy's 18" Goodyears just dug in and chowed the ice as we carefully chugged our way up. Around another hairpin we encountered a vehicle that was stuck – as its driver made an attempt to move forward it began to slide, dangerously close to the edge of the drop.

We couldn't bear to watch and were heartily relieved when they gave up, parked the vehicle and hitched a ride with their mates.

As for the Discovery, it was amazing. Not once did it slip or slide, not once did it give things get hairy with a heart-stopping moment. And, when we stopped on yet another bend to wait for a vehicle in front of us to get going, a bunch of boys came and peered into the Disco's cabin and gazing in awe at the sophistication of the vehicle's equipment – drooling with envy, in fact.

Safe and snug in the vehicle, the heater restoring feeling to our frozen extremities, we simply grinned smugly. What's not to love about this car? It has a mode for every surface: tar, gravel, rocks and snow. It has high and low range, the suspension can be adjusted to suit the terrain, it's beautifully driver friendly and has a sound system second to none.

Never has Led Zeppelin's 'Whole Lotta Love' sounded so good... or so loud! With armrests, leather seats, three sunroofs and even a double-decker cubbyhole, it's certainly the answer to a maiden's prayer – particularly when confronted with unpredictable elements.

Oops, and I nearly forgot to mention the descent control button that certainly helps to control the drive down sharp inclines. What a machine! There's absolutely nothing to fault and, were I R570 000 richer, it would live in my driveway for ever.

DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT TODAY

You can't change your thinking in order to improve your behaviour. You need to change your behaviour in order to improve your thinking. So if you are feeling anxious, concerned, depressed or gatvol, why not try changing your behaviour and DOING something differently, from today.

For example:

- Greet every SAP policeman you meet with a friendly smile or handshake and thank them for protecting you and your loved ones. Boy do they need some motivation!
- Visit www.sagoodnews.co.za. Often.
- Read an inspiring book.
- Write a poem.
- Get into nature (or walk barefoot on your lawn!)
- Write down everything you have to be grateful for. Every morning.
- Play inspirational music, especially when the news comes on your radio.
- Find some way to exercise your body a little more. (Endorphins are lekker!)
- Try out one of the 100 available techniques of mediation or relaxation.
- Watch the sunrise and/or sunset.
- Create a morning ritual to make your day beautiful.





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- Find out and speak about the good news.
- Choose to be happy.
- Most importantly, seek out and speak your own truth and live a whole life. You deserve it. And in doing so, you will change your life and make a massive difference to this special place we call home.

Bhejane 4X4 Adventures

Bhejane 4X4 Adventures was formed with the vision of conducting guided self drive 4X4 trails into the remoter areas of Southern Africa. Our objective is to involve everyone in the ecological, historical, cultural, 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, scuba 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 either English, Afrikaans, Zulu or Tswana.

For further information regarding the listed tours (see the website):

Contact: Frank: **044 535 9257** or **082 323 3561**

Dennis: **044 535 9257** or **082 572 4945**

Fax: **044 535 9257**

E mail: info@bhejane.com / Web: www.bhejane.com

(January 2008)

Industry Training (everybody welcome)

Training is offered by the professionals, for you, the professional. Offered by 4x4 Offroad Adventure Club, our training is executed by PROFESSIONALS in their area of expertise. We also strive to make it price competitive, so as to bring it to the layman, at an affordable rate. See our vast offering for 2008, below.

1. Snake Identification and Snake Bite Treatment Course

The first course has run for the year and was extremely well attended. This is a must do course, especially on the snake bite treatment side. 5 of us successfully completed the 'optional' test for a FGASA Accredited Certificate during January, and having postponed attendance for many years, I am sincerely glad I attended this now. Also presented by one of only 2 venom 'tappers' in SA, Mike, a true professional indeed. Request details for next course. Also offers a Snake handling course, post the first course and then the exciting BLACK MAMBA handling course.

2. Level 1 First Aid Certificate





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This course covers the latest methods and practices in a 16 hour training session over 2 days, for the requisite Level 1 certification as required by Law. Again, presented by a professional training authority and a practical and fun Dr. Ricky, candidates learn the basics of the CPR requirements, wound dressings and accident scene administration. A must do for moms with small kids, high school students (part of the national curriculum) and off-road and outdoor enthusiasts.

3. **Bush Survival Course for Overlanders / 4x4ers**

The course is presented on a bush farm called Lalapanzi, which is situated near Magaliesberg ± 107km from Midrand. The aim of the course is to teach survival skills to families planning 4X4 overland camping holiday trips in Africa. By participating in this course the family will gain confidence for a 4X4 overland trip that could have dire consequences in the event of a breakdown in a remote and desolate uninhabited area. The knowledge gained on the course will teach them how to deal with the situation.

These courses are scheduled over weekends thus enabling the family to become involved, and allowing a weekend camping at the bush farm campsite where facilities are available—self catering.

4. **GPS Software Course (Next Course – 12 September 2008)**

This course is presented by SA's Mr GPS, Kevin Bolton and deals with the PC Software aspect of your GPS environment. This includes Theory & Practical training in GPS Software Usage (Mapsource, T4A, Google Earth etc.). It is a 3 hour workshop, where candidates must bring their own GPS and Laptop / Notebook with software.

5. **GPS Course (Next Course – 13-14 September 2008)**

This course is also presented by SA's Mr GPS, Kevin Bolton and deals with the Theory & Practical training in GPS Technology & Usage covering: Satellite Navigation theory, Faults and error in the system and problem areas, Datums, Projections, Co-ordinate systems (Includes practical), GPS screens, GPS menus, Configuration of your GPS, Practical route (GoTo's, Routes and BackTrak), Etc. Includes 35 page manual & 1:50 000 map.

If you do not have a GPS one will be provided – please just indicate such, as we will help you out during the course.

6. **Driver Training Courses (Full schedule available)**

We are teaming up with one of the oldest and most professional driver training outfits in Gauteng and will be presenting the following training courses:

- Introduction to 4x4 Driving
- Advanced Offroad Driving
- Skid Control and Defensive Driving
- Mechanical Fault Finding

7. **Bush Medical Course (6-7 September 2008)**

It happens often that the 4x4 traveler / overlander is being confronted with the prospect of having to treat medical conditions and make decisions, far beyond their scope of experience and knowledge. This happens as a direct result of the areas that we find





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ourselves in. The remoteness of certain areas give us the feeling of adventure, but also place us in areas, where medical infra-structure and care is limited and sometimes non-existent. Minor medical problems have the potential to become very serious, if not managed correctly. On the other hand, one might be confronted to break up camp prematurely and head home.

Dr Neil (General Practitioner / Occupational Health Practitioner) has been presenting the BUSH MEDICINE COURSE for the past 5 years in the Western Cape, as well as in Gauteng. The course usually consists of two modules, each lasting a full day (roughly 6 - 8 hours depending on the group). It is very practical (you get to learn to suture lacerations and practice CPR on dummies). Due to time constraints, and the need to present such a course, it was decided to present the most important chapters over 1 day (8 hours), leaving the rest for self study. A certificate is provided to those attending. After completion, you should be able to initiate and manage most medical emergencies, as well as make the right decisions. The conditions are to be discussed, presented and highlighted.

8. Fire Fighting for Campers Course (Completed for 2008)

The concept of this training session is twofold and aims to deal with the serious stuff and theory for the adults or driver, with a separate session for the moms and the kids – you can decide how you want to split it. The workshop will be dealt with by professional emergency services trained and qualified personnel.

The main lecture with accompanying handbook for notes. Explanations and demonstrations. Then it will be followed up by a practical session outside with firepans etc. The moms and kids will attend an enthusiastic and fun orientated practical lesson also by a professional, so they do not need sit through the lecture.

Each family subscribing will get 1 handbook only, included in the price.

9. Emergency Tyre Repair Course

This course / workshop will take place in Centurion later this year and hosted by a leading tyre dealership. Learn how to use that plastic tub of goodies you bought and have never used! A must do workshop for all offroaders.

Other courses will be presented as we go along. Watch the newsletter and direct mail shots for further details and the program once it has been released. Tell your friends. Send email to 4x4offroad@mweb.co.za

MASAZANE EXPEDITIONS

MASAZANE BREAKAWAYS – UP TO 8 DAYS:

An opportunity to unwind from the general mayhem in our lives, without having to dig deep into your leave, if at all...

CAMP AFRICA – THE BEST BREAKAWAY IN THE SOUTPANSBERG!!! **CAMP AFRICA HUTS AND CAMPSITE (LIMPOPO, RSA)**





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Now if driving too far is not your 'thing'... and you just want to mellow for a few days... why not join us at **Camp Africa**. **Camp Africa** is situated on the fringes of indigenous forest and has a beautiful view over Louis Trichardt. By road it is approximately 5 km from the centre of Louis Trichardt. **Camp Africa** has five (5) huts and many camping spots. Each hut is a 'family-unit' with two (2) single beds and a double bunker, i.e. four (4) beds. **Camp Africa** has a fully licensed bar and there is a kitchen area with two fireplaces and a double sink. The ablution block – each of the ladies and gents has a toilet, washbasin and two showers with hot water from a 4kW geyser. There is a large boma that holds a 'kuier-fireplace' so that the beautiful evenings of this region can be enjoyed. Of interest to children, will be the animal pen with rabbits, chickens, goats, geese, ducks, guinea fowl', etc. There is much else to see and hear... so bring the family anytime for a short break from the mayhem of city life...

Activities include the vehicle trail, birding, tree-spotting, hiking, cultural tours, historical tours, mountain biking, butterflies, moths... to name but a few...

We hope to hear from you and/or see you soon...

Dave (GP 0838) and Jacqui (GP 0773) van Graan
MASAZANE EXPEDITIONS
CAMP AFRICA
CK 1996 / 015766 / 23
PO Box 3357, Makhado, 0920, REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA (RSA)
www.masazane.co.za
info@masazane.co.za
+27 - (0)82 - 829 - 5421 Jacqui mobile
+27 - (0)82 - 772 - 6682 Dave mobile
+27 - (0)82 - 542 - 8492 Nico mobile
+27 - (0)15 - 516 5717 Telephone number
+27 - (0)15 - 516 4819 Facsimile number

April 2008

From the Tracks – Reader Feedback

NEWSLETTER READER FEEDBACK

Hi Alan,

Trust you're well!!! ... Thanks for an amazing news letter...as usual!

Thanks a million!

Trevor

Hi Everybody.

I have a usefull A) wesite address that I find invaluable to find values of vehicles and B) an email address to help solve our frustrations with potholes in roads we use daily, listed below for your convenience.

LEISURESURE
OUTDOOR INSURANCE PRODUCTS
Call: 083 306 5657
Email: phillip@leisuresure.co.za



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A). Vehicle value estimator:

<http://www.mead.co.za/estimator/estimator.exe?company=stannic>

B). Johannesburg Road Agency (JRA) Email address where you report potholes in Johannesburg roads (it works!! I have used it and potholes are fixed in a matter of days)

hotline@jra.org.za

Regards
Malcolm van Coller

THERE IS JUSTICE OUT THERE - BUT YOU WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO PROVIDE IT YOURSELF!!!!

Just a note to advise you all that my beloved "Dinky", my 1983 Nissan Safari, has been recovered. As you are aware, "Dinky" was stolen from a supposedly secure parking area at Eskom Convention Centre in Midrand on 27th March 2007. A case was subsequently opened at Olifantsfontein Police Station, and an advert was placed in the Sowetan offering a reward for the recovery of "Dinky". That was the last that I heard of the case.

Now the story: Yesterday I went to buy prepaid electricity at a service station in Hatfield. I normally buy this at the BP garage near the Pretoria railway station, but since they had been "off-line" on two previous occasions when I wanted to buy pre-paid electricity, I decided to drive to Hatfield and buy it there instead.

On my way back I was intending to stop off at a pet shop in a shopping centre called Castle Walk, just off Hans Strydom Drive, to buy a kennel for our latest family member, Lucy, a Jack Russell acquired from the SPCA.

I drove back from Hatfield via the Fountains Circle, up the R21 towards Monument Park, and passed a white Nissan Safari that was driving in the left-hand lane. It looked very similar to my stolen bakkie, but had no tailgate, no tarpaulin, and no CB and radio aerial, and it had Lesotho registration plates. At the time all sorts of thoughts were running around in my mind, mostly of a statistical nature.....what were the chances that this vehicle could be my stolen bakkie.....

I kept on driving down the R21, past the traffic lights at Makou Street and at Elephant Street, towards the offramp at Hans Strydom Drive. I was in two minds as to whether I should just put the sighting of the vehicle down as pure coincidence (after all, statistically, the odds that it was my vehicle were staggering) and not do anything about it, or whether I should just go ahead and buy the kennel as I had previously intended, so I pulled over to the side of the road at the Hans Strydom Drive offramp and looked at the Nissan Safari waiting at the red traffic lights at the Elephant Street intersection, trying to decide what to do. The traffic lights turned green at the Elephant Street intersection, and I sat and watched the Nissan Safari drive past me in the direction of OR Tambo airport. Impulsively, I decided to follow it.

I was driving in Rina's Ford Fiesta, my Merc being in for a touch up where a rather large stone had scratched the paintwork, and the fuel gauge was close to empty, but I was determined to find out whether the vehicle was mine. Initially, I drove directly behind the bakkie after catching up to it, but soon realized that this was not a good idea, as the driver might get suspicious if he saw that I was behind him all the time. I backed off and made sure there were a few vehicles between





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us at all times. As you are no doubt aware, my bakkie sits quite high off the ground, so it was relatively easy to follow at a distance. Approaching the Highveld Engen 1-Stop on the R21, some slow-moving trucks obscured my sight of the bakkie for a few seconds, and once I was able to get past them, the bakkie was no-where to be seen. I immediately took the Tembisa North / Bronkhorstspuit offramp and drove back onto the R21 in a northerly direction, suspecting that the driver of the Safari had pulled in at the Highveld Engen 1-Stop to put in petrol. When I was directly opposite the service station, and while still driving in a northerly direction, I looked through the trees and shrubs that make up the division between the northbound and southbound lanes, and saw the Nissan Safari driving out of the service station on the opposite (southbound) side of the R21. I made a u-turn at a convenient spot, and had to wait for about 2 minutes for a gap in the southbound traffic before I could rejoin the R21 southbound. By this time, the Safari was no-where to be seen. I could not drive any faster, as the traffic was the usual bumper-to-bumper procession, so I had no idea where the Safari was. I decided to keep on driving southwards on the R21 in the hope that I would eventually see the vehicle again.

By the time I had reached OR Tambo airport, I realized that the bakkie was gone. The driver had probably taken an offramp somewhere previously, and I therefore decided to turn around and drive back to Pretoria. The R21 splits at OR Tambo airport between Johannesburg and Boksburg, so I decided to take the Boksburg split because I knew there was an offramp just past the casino where I could turn around and head back home. Just before I took the offramp, I noticed the Safari about 500 meters ahead of me. I then made a third call to 10111, the first two calls having been disconnected from the call-centre side, advising them that I was in pursuit of a suspected stolen vehicle, and asking for some sort of assistance. The operator took my details and the details of the bakkie I was following and told me that she would see what she could do.

At the Eastgate Mall, the bakkie turned left into Northrand Road, and I stayed on his tail. I was determined to stay as close as possible, and therefore I was often forced to jump orange-coloured traffic lights. About 2 kilometers down Northrand Road, I noticed a police vehicle in my rear-view mirror, and when they pulled level with me on my left-hand side, I wound down the passenger side window and shouted to the driver of the police vehicle that I was following a suspected stolen vehicle. After indicating to the driver of the police vehicle that the Safari was the vehicle that I was referring to, they drove up next to the bakkie and told the driver to pull over at the next convenient parking area.

The driver of the bakkie turned into a shopping centre parking area, followed by the police vehicle, followed by me. The police officers, three of them, got out of their vehicle, and approached the driver of the bakkie, advising him that I had indicated to them that I thought the vehicle was stolen. The driver of the bakkie got out, and when I saw the over-ride switches for the electric radiator fan, on the left-hand side of the steering column, I knew it was mine. On closer inspection, it was found that the chassis numbers had been removed, and only the first three numbers of the engine number were visible. I called my office and then sent through the engine number via SMS to me, and the first three numbers were a match. Besides this, it was quite apparent that the ignition had been tampered with. The driver was arrested and we all went through to the Boksburg North police station to make out the necessary paper-work. I eventually got home at around 7:00pm last night.

There is a slight chance that I will get "Dinky" back today. Unfortunately, she is not in the same immaculate condition that she was when she was stolen, so the order of business will be: 1) A full





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valet 2) A major service, including a compression test 3) Replacement of missing items like radio, speakers etc. 4) Repairs to paintwork, bumper etc. Hopefully "Dinky" will resemble her previous self after all the attention!

Till later!!!!
Dave Muir

AFRICA BUSHCRAFT AND SURVIVAL ADVENTURES

ALL ITINERARIES, TOUR INFO, PHOTOS, COSTS CAN BE VIEWED ON www.africa-bushcraft.co.za

TOURS FOR 2008:

ROOF OF AFRICA

14th August—17 August 2008

CUNENE TO CONGO RIVER—ANGOLA

13th July 2008—5th August 2008

27th August 2008—19th September 2008

MOUNTAIN OF THE MAMBA GAME VIEWING SAFARI

27th September 2008—30th September 2008

SURVIVAL TRAINING—PRACTICAL SURVIVAL ADVENTURE

Apply for next dates - Advanced Survival Training available on Request.

We are flexible and can design the tour of your choice—try us. Our contact details:

KOOS MOORCROFT

DEAT REGISTRATION NO: GP2424

CATEGORY: ADVENTURE GUIDE

PROVINCE-S: NATIONAL

SPECIALITIES: PROFESSIONAL 4 X 4 TRAILS AND OVERLAND TOURS

CELL: 0825792796

ISOBELLE MOORCROFT

CELL: 0825612613

TEL/FAX: 012-6536725

E MAIL: kmoor@telkomsa.net

WEBSITE: www.africa-bushcraft.co.za

(January 2008)

Fresh from the Bush – New Products

SEND EMAIL TO 4buy4direct@mweb.co.za for the exciting NEW PRODUCT BROCHURE



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LEATHER BAGS

Hallo Allan,
I am a Leathercrafter making these products.

LEATHERSMITH manufactures classic rugged handcrafted leather bags for the Safari, Hunting and outdoors use. All products are totally handmade and hand stitched using rot free thread seated into the leather. All corners are strengthened with double leather layers. Each product 1 – 100 stamped with our Limited Edition logo, is numbered and signed.



NEWSREADER SPECIAL OFFER: NORMALLY R3400 – NOW ONLY R1700!!!!
Contact Frik van Jaarsveld, Leathersmith, Cell 0722210200

See website <http://www.leathersmith.co.za> for more.

NEW TOW DEVICE FOR ALL VEHICLES

We have just been appointed as an agent (direct & dealer sales) for this unique outdoor recovery product – 4x4 or home use - and now in the position to market it to you. This is a launch offer for 30 days only.

This product is indeed universal, and will fit any vehicle (4x4, tour bus, car etc.), as the ideal solution for towing a broken down vehicle, without a tow rope, and the hassle thereof. Every tried to tow a 'novice' behind a broken down vehicle? It is nothing less than a nightmare.

The TRAX BAR is made of stainless steel, is compact – unhooks to form two pieces, and can be carried easily in the boot of any vehicle. The uniquely designed 'clips' can attach to the pin type tow ball (not recommended on a standard towball), or a vehicle's recovery points. A strategically placed pin joins the 2 pieces, with a unique safety clip for solid holding while the units are joined. Furthermore, the unit 's joins in 2 positions, so that the clip locks in either a horizontal or upright position on either vehicle.

This unique product also comes in a handy carry bag, with an easy carrying handle.

CSIR tested up to 20 TON!

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Call: 083 306 5657
Email: phillip@leisuresure.co.za



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NEW SPOTLIGHT

Once in a while you come across an amazing product and this is one of those. A little torch called the SPOTLIGHT but what makes this torch unique is that it is tiny, fits in the lighter socket of your vehicle and gets charged there....no problem with looking for batteries.

This compact light is a convenient solution for when you need some extra light. Whether it's changing a tire, searching for lost items or locating your keys, the spotlight will always be at it's peak power. Due to the clever charging system, your vehicle's 12 volt power outlet (cigarette lighter) the spotlight is always charged, ready to help and within reach.



PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

High Output .5 Watt LED
6061 Anodized Aluminum Body
Rechargeable Ni-MH Battery
Fits Most 12 Volt Automotive Style Power Outlets
Red Glow 'Charging' Indicator
Length: Under 2 Inches / 50mm
Weight: 1.6 ounces / 45 grams
120 Minutes per Charge, Charges in 7 Hours
Testing: Impact, Salt Water Spray, Fatigue, IEC IP
Patent Pending

This product is available from 4buy4 Direct Store now for R185.00. To get your SPOTLIGHT send an enquiry to 4buy4direct@mweb.co.za. Price excludes delivery.

The Dusty Way – Club Trips, Reports & Feedbacks

THANK YOU





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Hi Alan and Charmaine

What a pleasure and surprise to both of you yesterday. I really lighted my day. Thanks for the amazing gift pack from you and club. I have already annexed the biltong and dry wors, and Elize has looked at the birding book, (she is quite a keen twitcher!) We will take with when we visit the Kruger in about a month's time.

Thanks

Stefan Kruger (recovered!)

GEOCACHE COMPETITION IN GAUTENG

Keepers of the Cache (2008 Geocaching Event)

An Event cache by CrystalFairy, Team Ginger and Sh0w Me The Cache

Event Date: 5/31/2008

For those in the club that have GPS's and in particularly those who are familiar with Geocaching then this story is for you.

Geocaching is a GPS game, played through the internet. It started some years back in the USA and was introduced to us and the club by Alan Goodway about six years ago. As some of you may already know, Geocaching has become a huge international success involving thousands of GPS owners world wide (see www.geocaching.com). It's very simply a game of hide and seek and can ideally be played by all whilst going on those great 4x4 outings. What you do to play the game is to register yourself on the web site (its free) and then use the internet to find what Geocaches are hidden in the area you are going to and whilst on the drive you stop, find the hidden cache (could be an ice cream tub), you swap trinkets, sign a log book and you go back onto the internet afterwards and log your find for everyone to see. I have currently found 69 caches throughout the world and own 9 caches throughout the country. I have even placed one at Sandy bay which I must admit is rather popular, particularly amongst visiting foreigners believe it or not!

Now, from time to time some of these obsessive Geocachers organise events around the game of Geocaching and for the first time Jill and I decided that we would join some old Geocaching friends whom I introduced to the game some years back and we would partake in this all day event called "Keepers of the Cache".

Being a first timer at doing these events we decided to piggy back on our friends, form a little team called "3J's and an R" and give the all day fun event a go and MY GOODNESS, what a fun day it turned out to be! There was even a bit of 'Fear Factor' and one felt a sense of being part of 'The Amazing Race'.

The organisers are ordinary Geocaches much like me but with huge imaginations and massive drive. They must have spent mega hours planning, organising, driving all over, organising sponsors such as Mitsubishi Midrand and Getaway Magazine, getting teas, lunches etc. arranged and I must take my hat off to them for the excellent day's outing.

The day itself was arrive early, download 40 Geocaches (new ones) and 40 waypoints, each of which would take you to the answer of a question given and a correct answers would go towards earning bonus points. The mission was that with each team having the same amount of time, they would visit as many of the new Geocaches as possible in the Midrand area before returning back





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to the start. To prevent congestion we were all started off at different intervals and finished back at Mitsubishi Centurion for a late lunch and a prize giving. This was the programme:-

Times :-

- Arrive anytime from 6:30am till 8:00am (During this time, all teams will have points loaded onto USB GPS devices)
- From 7:30am till 8:00am - Training for anyone who has never cached before. (You must know how to use your GPS)
- Briefing at 8:30 till 8:45. Lots of information to give the teams some of which is specific to certain caches.
- Teams will start leaving from 9:00am till 10:00am
- Teams will start arriving at end point between 3:00pm and 4:00pm (6 hours of caching)
- Food available from 3pm onwards
- Prize giving at 4:30/5:00pm.
- Socialise with your fellow Cachers from 5:00pm onwards.

We entered as non competitors; in fact we were just out to have a day of fun. Relaxed as can be we ambled along from one cache to the next and after 13 finds trickled into Mitsubishi Midrand with quite a few minutes to spare. Staggering enough we came in 8th over all from a group of 36 teams. What a surprise! Thanks to the sponsors Mapit, Groundspeak, Getaway and Mitsubishi there were lots of prizes to be won and I don't think anyone went away empty handed.. We certainly didn't! Between us we took home 2 bags of goodies, Getaway subscriptions, a bag full of prizes for being placed 8th a memory sticks and the use of a Mitsubishi Triton for a weekend (Watch out Barakah trail here come Rod and Joan!!)

Certainly a 4x4 event similar to this can be held within the club one day... If you are interested then push Alan's buttons to organise, you won't regret it!

Jonathan Greengrass (Club guide and Geocacher)

BERAKAH 4x4 DAY TRIP

We were looking forward to do the Berakah trail. Sunday morning came and most of us had an early call from our alarm clocks to ensure departure from Grasmere One Stop at 07h45. We left for Parys at 08h00 with Nigel doing back door duties for the group, with two more families joining the group at Berakah.

While for some it was a first visit to Berakah, others recalled the 14 km trial with some trepidation. On arrival at Berakah we were greeted with coffee and shortly after the briefing we set off to the first obstacle.

At the first steep decent at Raggedy Rush everybody passed, with one or two vehicles stalling on the way down, ensuring some brows dripping with sweat – not necessarily those of the drivers but rather the passengers! Elephant Hill with its “very steep” up and down had some of us worried, particular the blind turn to the right when starting the down hill. With assistance from Peet all vehicles finished this obstacle one by one and allowed time for taking pictures at the log bridge. The next stop was for lunch.





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Lunch was at the massive old Oak Tree. Here we enjoyed the "picnic basket" expertly packed at home or a quick braai. The shade under the old Oak Tree was very inviting and if it was not for the fact that ½ the track still had to be covered, an afternoon nap in the shade sounded very inviting!

During lunch we were approached for help from the group that went past us. One vehicle was stuck in the first mud hole. We finished lunch and set out to go and help the Land Rover in distress. With cameras clicking away, Peet, Wayne and others assisted and the Land Rover was on its way in no time at all.

The rest of the normal route went down without any second attempts or damage to the vehicles. Then the dreaded turn off to the circular route that includes the "mine shaft" appeared. The group did not hesitate to drive up the steep embankment and with careful driving and guidance the group made it to the top. But as the saying goes, what goes up must come down.... To go down one needs to transverse the "mine shaft".

This rocky road is sloped at an angle of approximately 38 degrees and consists of various axle twisters, a sharp turn, and loose rocks. Getting out of the car to take a breath of air, a valley filled with trees greeted one. The perfect recipe for good, clean adrenalin filled fun. We all made it down in one peace, shaken not stirred for the novices!

The day was without incident and thoroughly enjoyed by all. With the adrenalin still pumping in our ears, the group met again at the Berakah reception area. Final goodbyes were said and everybody left for home, feeling satisfied and refreshed – ready to take on the big city and work.

Had an outstanding day at Barakah, Thanks to Hendrik, except a Landy buried itself in a mud pool (not one of our party), much to the delight of the Toyota Clan, but they asked for our assistance to recover them, which was done with much snatching and winching.

*Regards,
Nigel.*

SWAZILAND WEEKEND AWAY

Unfortunately, due to a late 3 family cancellations, we were only 5 families who attended the much awaited Swaziland Long Weekend Haul. The lucky ones (4 families) left Gauteng early afternoon, and Alan and family could only leave after 3. After spending a treacherous last 2 hours on the road in the dark, and then spending another 1.5 hrs at Oshoek Border Post in absolute chaos, they finally arrived at Kirkhill Farm, later that evening. A warm fire and good friendship certainly helped to relax the mood, and a hungry bunch enjoyed a sociable braai, before the cold breeze sent everybody packing for bed.

The next morning, after initially greeting the owners, we set off for a tourist view of Swaziland under the guidance of guide Morne van der Westhuizen. Morne laid out a well planned route which saw us travel via the forest route, through pineapple fields and on to the Swazi Candle Factory and Craft Market. From here we left for the craft centre just by the Four Wheel Drive Club of Swaziland's clubhouse, which was of great interest. From here, we passed the infamous Ezulwene Valley hotels, golf course, cuddle puddle and the almost 1km long curio market.





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Then it was through Mbabane, past the large granite mountains of Mount Sibebe and into the back roads of Swaziland. Travelling the mountains and valleys of Swaziland is absolutely amazing. We stopped midday for a picnic lunch next to a beautiful stream. From there we visited the Maguga Dam, and based on time on the road, we turned around and headed back to the capital.

En route home, we stopped off at Ngwenya Glass Factory and took in the sites available here, bought some curios and had to tear some people out of the Chocolate Factory! Then we headed home, with 2 vehicles stopping to tackle some pictures of a stunning rapid in a river, while the rest of us headed back to camp to start the fire. Another great social around the fire by the families in attendance. Great stuff.

The next morning Morne lead the convoy on the Kirkhill 4x4 route, which was most enjoyable. The team stopped for lunch at the aloe mountain, where Alan and Morne replaced a lost geocache in the rocks. Then we headed home after an enjoyable back and around route. At base camp we said goodbye to Johan and Rina, who had to return to Gauteng based on another commitment. Guess what – another great evening around the fire.

The next day after a leisurely wake and pack up, we enjoyed a scrumptious breakfast, we finally left. We greeted the farmer and his wife, packed in our veggies kindly sponsored by the club, and headed for a quiet border post through the forest. After a brief stop outside of Middleburg, we greeted and left for home, after a great club weekend away. Swaziland remains a great venue indeed.

*Hi Alan,
Thank you to you and Charmaine for a wonderful weekend.
Wilshire's*

ZIMBABWE LONG HAUL

After overnighing in Elephant sands near Nata in Botswana we travelled through to Pandamatenga on an extremely bad axel braking strip of tar road. It's for approximately 80km that one ends up speeding up when the potholes seem to clear only to hit hard on the breaks again at the next batch of potholes 1-2km down the road. Some of the potholes are so bad I had to practically engage low range to get through them. The Botswana authorities are very aware of this disintegrating stretch of road and they are trying their best to take control of the situation. There is strong evidence of ongoing repairs and I have noticed some definite improvement from when we last drove this route.

Our stay in Bumbusi camp in Zimbabwe was most pleasant with great bush walks using a Game Scout named Sergeant Richard who came back specially from leave for us. Incidentally the game scouts are now referred to as rangers and Sergeant Richard is certainly from the old school. He has been in the bush since 1968 and knows absolutely every tree, insect, mammal, path, history you name it. In fact, there is little about the area he doesn't know. Certainly one of the best if not the best ranger we have ever hired in the park.

Sadly some poachers managed to slip past the anti poaching team stationed in the area and two black rhino were shot whilst we were there. Apparently it was a cow and a calf and although we are not supposed to tell anyone due to bad publicity facts are facts. The parks officials reacted as best they could but the poachers were already long gone with the horns. We were unable to view





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or go into that area which was a pity as it was near the Bumbusi gorge which is about 6km from the camp, an area we were hoping to walk in. As Sergeant Richard rightly indicated, it was for our own safety.

We took up some donated fishing tackle and I also purchased some extra line, hooks and sinkers which I handed to the staff. They were just like two little boys and couldn't wait to go fishing. Whilst we were out walking at the Bumbusi ruins they disappeared out of the area to collect fire wood and arrived back 5 hours later loaded with not only wood but also with a cooler box containing 3 Barble and 6 Bream which they had decided to catch in the river whilst collecting wood. They were beaming and I have never seen them so excited.

Between us we took up 6 boxes of mixed clothes for all ages, some were donated by good friends for the camp keeper's small children. Ernest and Karen Chirole also donated clothing amongst which was an overall and no time was wasted by the camp keeper in putting it on and he proceeded to wear it for the rest of the week.

Numerous books were taken to the camp, some paper back novels have been left to start a bit of a library in the lounge for future visits and a brand new tree book donated by Phil and me was left there for all to use. I searched high and low for a suitable tree book that would suite the area and once in the camp I tested the book along with the ranger and it's perfect for the area.

4x4 Club members and friends donated colouring books, coloured pens, crayons, note books, exercise books etc. which were shared out between the staff. They have quite sufficient writing books now, enough to even redistribute them to those close to them and in need. We also received donations of school work books for Grade 1 and Grade RR, Abigail the camp keeper's wife was given a crash teaching course on how to use them. She needs to start doing some basic education on those two little boys.

This brings me to one of the little boys named Calvin; he is the 3 year old son of the camp keeper and his wife. Calvin's knee is not looking good and his walking is severely hampered. As suggested on a previous trip, they need to get him to a hospital for an examination and an x-ray and Calvin will now need some form of operation on that knee in order for him to be able to walk properly, run and play like every little boy should. I have taken photos of the knee, x-rays and the doctor's report; hopefully we can read what's on them from a procedural point of view. The government hospital in Hwange has referred them to the hospital in Bulawayo for surgery as they cant perform the surgery there and little Calvin will now need an operation on the knee to re-attach the tendons (something like that) to pull his little leg straight. This procedure is not free and payment will be sought. We all know that they just cannot afford it. They did get a rough idea of what it would cost in Zim\$ but since it changes so rapidly I could not peg the amount to the Rand or the US\$. I have suggested that they try to come up with an amount pegged in either rand or US\$ which should include the cost of the procedure, hospitalization, transport to and from Bulawayo X2 for little Calvin and his mother Abigail plus consumables, expenses etc. What we can try and do within the group is too hopefully (also with some support from the club); create a fund for Calvin to sponsor this operation. If we don't help him now, this little boy will eventually grow up crippled.

As part of our support to the Zimbabwe people, and boy do they need it, we took some food items for them to ration amongst themselves, oil, maize, flour, sugar, powdered milk, yeast etc. are much needed by the locals. There was also a whole lot of excess food left behind by the group.





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Unfinished packets of biscuits, opened cool drinks, various tins, flour, oil, etc., and generally whatever could be spared was left behind (a big thank you). When you see them taking home the brine drained off a tin of tuna to put over their Pap you realise how tough it really is up there.

I also took up some medical supplies that I purchased through a pharmacist friend, cough mixtures, flu remedies, laxatives, ear drops, eye drops, pain pills, bandages, plasters etc. these guys have nothing! The medication focused on syrups etc., mainly so that it can be given to children. I went through every box and bottle in detail with them to make sure they understood the contents of each bottle and how to administer it.

Driving up from Hwange town to Vic Falls saw little to no traffic. I think there was a total of 2 trucks that passed us going in the opposite direction. There was the regular police road block just South of Vic Falls (been there for years) and the Police were relaxed and friendly. The one officer who inspected our vehicle took more interest in the new tool box I had recently purchased than in the car and its contents.

We also left our excess petrol and diesel (40ltrs of each), there was no point in lugging it along with us and they certainly need it.

My thanks go to the group and their generosity towards the Zimbabweans we managed to reach. These are some of the really special quality people we have in the club and it shows. My thanks also to Tim for coming along with dad, thanks for all your hard work, well done Tim.

Proves again we are a quality club with quality people. Hope this finds you and all our fellow club members well.

Jonathan Greengrass - Club guide

Hi Alan

Just to let you know that Duncan and I had a fantastic time in Zimbabwe with Jonathan Greengrass. The effort that he put in to make the trip interesting and fun was exceptional. He deserves the key to the city or at least a hearty pat on the back. :-)

Regards

Andy Trollip

The Trading Post – Swop, Sell or Buy

FOR SALE

2006 JURGENS SAFARI EXPLORER FOR SALE

R135 000

TRAVELED APPROXIMATELY 6000 KMS, INCLUDING A FULL TENT WORTH R10 000

FEATURES

- FIELD KITCHEN WITH 2 BURNER STOVE
- SIDE RALLY AWNING
- PULL-OUT SHOWER TENT





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- 40L MINUS 40 FRIDGE/FREEZER
- BUILT-IN 80L WATER TANK
- GEYSER – 220V / 12V
- 2 X 25L JERRY CANS
- 2 X 4,5KG GAS BOTTLES

PLEASE CONTACT SIAS VAN DEN BERG:
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CELL: 082 442 5713
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FOR SALE - GLASSFIBRE RADICAL TOP CAMPER FOR a Land Cruiser P/up

1. Radical Tops Glasvesel Camper
2. Slaap 2x volwassenes en 2 x klein kinders of 1 x groot kind
3. Dra 2 x Jerry Kanne op buitekant van Camper (Sien foto)
4. Dra 1 x High Lift Jack
5. Dra 1 x graaf
6. Dra 1 x spaarwiel agter op Camper (Spaarwiel draer wat wegswaai)
7. 12 en 20 Volt kragproppe in camper (Camper prop by 220 Volt krag in soos karavaan) 12 Volt kragtoevoer is vanaf voertuig se dubbel battery stelsel
8. 12 Volt kar radio/CD speller in camper
9. 12 Volt ligte (wit) binne en (geel) buite die camper gemonteer
10. Voldoende kaste vir kruideniersware, klere en kampeertoerusting
11. Plek met kragproppe vir ys/vriekas (Voldoende spasie vir tweedeur National Luna ys/vriekas)
12. Dra 1 x gasbottel buite op agterkant van camper wat tweeplaat gasstoof van gas voorsien
13. Plek aan buitekant van camper om "Awning" met "Add a Room" te monteer

R37 000 onco
Coen Marias
0823754168

ECHO 4 TRAILER FOR SALE

Echo 4 Offroad trailer for sale. With awnings and sidewalls, kitchen, power pack, watertank and pump, aftermarket basket system in luggage area, braking system.

Reason for selling - SWAMBO wants an off road caravan
R70 000 ONCO

Mike 0828220241

ANOTHER TRAILER FOR SALE WITH TENT

Hi, Could you please include this advert in your next E-zine

Venter Bush Baby with Howling Moon Trailer Tent, side panels to close whole tent (+- 25m2), Jerrycan Holders, Gasbottle holders, Toolboxes, Nose Cone, 220v,12v, 2x 220v plugs, 3x Hella





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Plugs, Full Trailer length kitchen stainless table, Aluminium drawer system (3 drawers with 40l fridge slide, fits in the back of a Pajero LWB).

The trailer was bought new in 1998 and the tent in 2006. Trailer and tent in excellent condition, always stored under roof cover. Asking price R28 500.00 neg.

Thanks

Corrie

(012) 644-3410

(082) 807-5017

ECHO T-TOP ROOFTOP TENT +

Hello Alan, please would you include the following item for sale in the next Offroad & Outdoor E-Zine.

Echo T-Top Rooftop Tent plus Add-A-Room. Used once. New Price R11063 Asking R9000.

Tel Roy Traviss 083 380 0165

TOYOTA D/C AND SUPRA OFFROAD TRAILER 4 SALE

We have a 2004 Toyota Legend KZTE in excellent condition fitted with spots and a long-range tank as well as a custom made canopy. It has around 110 000 km on the clock and full service history. We are looking at around R190 000.

The trailer is a brand new Conqueror Supra only used 3 times fully kitted ie double bed, tent extension, bar, kitchen (stocked) and stove, jerry cans and holders, gas bottle holders, roof rack, water pump, deep cycle batteries, etc (see pics). I would like to get around R65 000.

Appreciate your assistance,

Regards

Gary Collard

General Manager, Kruger Park Lodge, Hazyview

gcollard@legacyhotels.co.za

FOR SALE - 2002 WILDERNESS 4X4 OFF ROAD TRAILER

- 2 500 kg Brake Axle
- 2 x Gas Bottle Holders/Brackets
- 2 x Jerry can Holders
- 1 x Extra Spare wheel
- Swallow Rooftop Tent (Sleep 4 x persons)
- Conqueror Dome tent plus side wall (not shown on photo)
- Double Door Kitchen Unit with Two Plate Gas Stove
- Kitchen include, following (and as per attach photo):
 - Fully catered for 4 x people
 - 4 x stainless steel glasses
 - 4 x stainless steel wine glasses





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- 4 x stainless steel coffee mugs
- 4 x dinner plates & site plates
- 2 plate "cast iron" gas stove

Power Supply 220 V , Plus 12 V
Large Nose Cone, to fit Fridge into
Power inverter / dual battery in nose cone.

Excellent condition - Serviced December 2007.

Price: R 50,000.00 not negotiable. Please call the undersigned if interested.

Jan Marais

Cell: +27 82 419 9919

TENT FOR SALE

I have a CAMPMASTER "CABIN" TENT for sale. It was used ONCE at warmbaths for a weekend on a grass stand. It is really still BRAND NEW, no leaks or anything, spotless. It is 420cm(L) x 280cm(W) x 205cm(H). It is perfect for younger persons, students etc.

FEATURES:

- UV Protection fabric
- Tent & fly : Polyester 450mm & 1000m PU Fire retardant
- Easy to set up with strong steel poles joined with heavy duty moulded hubs
- Weight = 13kg
- Sleeps 4, but to be honest, I'd say two, then you have some space left for other goodies
- Heavy duty PE bucket floor
- Electrical Cord Zip entry
- Durable carry bag
- Internal storage pocket

JUST COME AND LOOK FOR YOURSELF!

NO DAMAGE, NO LEAKS, NO HOLES, NO SPOTS... IT IS REALLY BRAND NEW.

Asking Price: R725.00 or any **reasonable offer**. Everything that came with included.

Reason for selling: I bought it for the once a year weekend at Warmbaths, but the yearly function is unfortunately cancelled, I really only had the chance to use it once, and it was great. I use the caravan for other trips.

It is not a safari tent, it is just for camping at less robust places than higher up in Africa...

Anyone interested can contact me please on 072 448 9759. Pieter Barnard

Flat Wheel – Light Relief

NEW HILUX BAKKIE

One day, Jimmy was walking down Voortrekker Road when he checked his china, Kallie, driving a brand new Hilux. Kallie pulled up to him with a wide grin. He tunes Kallie: "Jislaaik Kallie, where'd you get that bakkie? Looks lekker man!"





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"Sannie gave it to me" Kallie charfs. "She gave it to you! I knew she kind of smaaked you, but a new Hilux???" "Well, Jimmy, let me charf you what happened:

We were driving out on the gravel road, in the middle of nowhere. Sannie pulled off the road, put the bakkie in 4-wheel drive, and headed into the bushes. She parked the bakkie, jumped out, threw off all her clothes and schemes: 'Kallie, take whatever you want'. I swear, one time, broer! So I took the bakkie"...

"Kallie, you're blerrie clever, man! Those clothes would never have Fitted you anyway!!!

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.

1) ECHO ACCESSORIES 4x4 CENTRE – NEW STORE!

Visit Willie, Rochelle, Neil, Phillip 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.

Call 012 – 345 3333, Fax 012 345 3343 or email: echoacc@mweb.co.za. Web: www.echo4x4.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 or on 083 306 5657 / Fax (012) 542 3564. Speak to Phillip (club member)

3) BOLTONS GPS WAREHOUSE / KEVIN BOLTON CONSULTANTS

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

KJ BOLTON CONSULTANT cc

Contact Kevin @ 082 564 3639 or Marietjie 012-6549813

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

4) FRONT RUNNER

Front Runner will offer any club member, on production of their club card, a 10% discount on the purchase of any Front Runner produced product.

Call Wayne Heath-Coombe (club member) now.

1 Forssman Close, Dytchley Road, Barbeque Downs, Kyalami

011 466 0155

www.frontrunner.co.za





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5) 4x4 MEGAWORLD

10% on ALL products in their larger than ever warehouse. What an offer. From camping gear, 4x4 gear, outdoor gear, the lot!!!! Their warehouse is now bigger and better and definitely worth a visit. Club members, as one of the few places that give is 10% on anything!, it is well worth the visit. Speak to any of their well trained staff! megaworld@oldmanemu.co.za

6) 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

7) HONEYDEW TOYOTA & RV CENTRE

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

8) 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 (both club members) or any of the staff in the shop.

09) OUTDOOR WAREHOUSE - CENTURION

The suppliers of a wide range of camping, climbing, paddling, hiking and 4x4 accessories and goods, this store is a worthwhile venue to spend some quality time in. Close to the high way (N1), off the John Voster turn off in Centurion. No discount offered, just good service!

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

Editor:

Alan Goodway (GP 1796)

Registered DEAT Tourist Guide - National
Professional 4x4 Trail & Overland Guide
Accredited 4x4 Driver Training Assessor
Owner - 4x4 Offroad Adventure Club (Gauteng)

4x4offroad@mweb.co.za
(c) 082 603 8321
(h) 012 658 5694
(f) 086 684 9116
www.4x4offroadclub.co.za

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