



August 2008

Words

Bi-monthly AAWDC Newsletter

ORGANISED FOUR WHEEL DRIVE CLUBS CONCERNED ABOUT FAUNA AND FLORA, NATURAL RESOURCES AND RECREATION IN SOUTHERN

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AAWDC INTER CLUB 4x4 FUN DAY 16 AUGUST 2008

On Saturday 16 August 2008, McCarthy 4x4 hosted the AAWDC Fun Day at Rhino Park. A great deal of preparation went into the planning of this event in so far as the construction of the ten obstacles and arrangement of sponsored prizes were concerned.

Thirteen 4x4 clubs took part, which included: Landrover Owner's Club, Jeep, Isuzu, Toyota Owner's Club, Gelandewagen, L A Sport, two teams from the Landcruiser Club, Nissan 4x4 Club, two teams from the Four Wheel Drive Club, the ATV Club and individual participants who formed the SCORPION Club for the day.

Committee members, contestants and their respective families arrived on Friday 15 August to set up camp for the exciting weekend that lay ahead. Each obstacle was assigned to a specific 4x4 club. They were allowed to adjust the obstacle to make it more interesting and challenging.

Friday also saw the arrival of those who exhibited their products on Saturday, as well as the variety of refreshment stalls, to keep everyone's thirst quenched and hunger pangs at bay.

The big day finally arrived! Guests and contestants arrived in their numbers. Registration and indemnities eventually got off to a good start. A bumper pack of useful sponsored goods was handed to each participating driver and a driver's briefing followed immediately thereafter.

Contestants, family members, marshals, administrators and several supporters set themselves up at the obstacles assigned to them on the programme. The "vuvuzela" signaled the start to the first item on the programme, to be followed by several others throughout the day at regular intervals. Mr. Les Cox facilitated each item strictly according to schedule as time was of the essence.

What a day of fun, laughter, stress, concentration, competition, team spirit and DRIVER SKILLS!

To sort out discrepancies and to give credit where it was due, we were privileged to have Mr. Dirk van Dyk, as the Clerk of the course for the day.

Scores were fleetingly handed in to be processed and tallied. Protesting was permitted and negotiated. Once everything was finalized the prize giving then took place on time.

Sponsorship played a major role in the prize giving. Once again, to those who were responsible for this, we owe our sincerest thanks. These include....

TOYOTA SA: MAIN SPONSOR.
BRIDGESTONE SA
NISSAN SA
LA SPORT
POLLY CRAFT
VAN RENSBURG ENG.
AUTO BOX
WURTH
BELGO DESIGNS
HI Q PRETORIA NORTH



The results were as follows:

- 1 Gelandewagen: 646.60 pts
- 2 Jeep: 603.27 pts
- 3 Landrover Owner's Club: 584.63 pts
- 4 Toyota Owner's Club: 581.10 pts
- 5 Landcruiser team 1: 555.83 pts
- 6 Wheel Drive Club team 1: 553.80 pts
- 7 Isuzu Off-road: 553.37 pts
- 8 ATV Club: 537.70 pts
- 9 LA Sport: 519.67 pts
- 10 Land cruiser team 2: 495.27pts
- 11 Four Wheel Drive Club: 478.47pts
- 12 Nissan 4x4 Club: 134.63 pts
- 13 Scorpion Team: 109.7pts

McCarthy 4x4 wishes to thank each and everyone for their time, their contribution however big or small, the contestants, their families and all sponsors involved, as well as every effort into making this event- the fun-filled and successful event that it was.

Regards.

Jacques De Lange
McCarthy 4x4 club
Chairman.



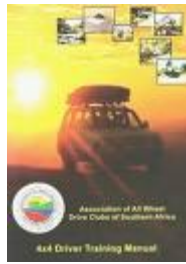
How to order Driver Training Manuals:

Driver Training Manuals cost R50 each (excl. postage / courier fees.) Please send your request with the *quantity* required, *delivery requirements*, as well as *delivery address* to:

members@aawdc.org.za

Or fax it to: 08611AAWDC.

An invoice will be generated and on proof of payment the manuals will be posted or couriered, as per your request.



AAWDC Fun Day

Many thanks to all those who participated, helped out or came to support their Club. A big thank you to the McCarthy 4x4 Club for hosting a great fun day! CONGRATULATIONS to Gelandewagen Club on being the AAWDC Fun Day champions for 2008!

News from our clubs

FWDCSA—Garden Route
30 Aug: Day Trip
Sept: Southern Region Rally
24—26 Oct & 28—30 Nov Events
Contact: Andre Barnard
Tel: 044-6951223 /
Cell: 0824101706

AAWDC Cape:
30 Aug: Bring en braai te Wiesenhof om 11h00.
6 Sept: "AAWDC Interklub Pret Dag" te Atlantis Duine. Sien www.aawdc.offventure.com/interclub.html
Kontak: Peet Hendriks (peet@offventure.com)
Tel: 021-9139596
Sel: 0723532495

McCarthy 4x4Club:
13 Sept: Basic 4x4 Training
14 Sept: Club Day(McCarthy Toyota Centurion will be the hosts)
26 Sept—5 Oct: Mozambique - Parsio Duno Belen 4x4 Trip
Contact: Anthonie Coetzee Email: mc4x4@mcmotor.co.za
Tel. (012) 653 9428
Cell 082 928 7702

JEEP CLUB:
6 Sept: Children's Day (Charity) (Book this date - your participation is essential!)
12 Oct: One-Day Fun Trip (JC)
Contact: Giel van Niekerk
Cell: 0832518586
E-mail: info@jeepclubrsa.co.za
Fax: 086 505 0484



FWDC:
3—5 Oct: Club Carnival
14 Sept: Outing to Hennops
24—28 Sept: Outing to the Makgadikgadi Pans, Botswana.
17—19 Oct: Outing to Three Provinces Trail
Fri 24 to Sun 26 Oct: Outing to Three Provinces Trail
Contact: Kim Carmichael
Tel: 0861393272
Email: fwdcsa@icon.co.za

ISUZU OFFROAD CLUB:
13 Sept: GP—Groenkloof, Day Trip
Contact: Johan Terblanche
E-mail: johan@isuzuoffroad.co.za

NISSAN:
31 Aug: Play meeting, Bring food
7 Sept: Month meeting, Mudslingers, Bring food
21 Sept: Play meeting, Mahem, Braai
12 Oct: Month meeting, Braai
26 Oct: Play meeting, Doorn Rivier, Bring food
Contact: Kobus Pienaar
Cell: 0829235682
Mailto: kobuspienaar@flysaa.com



Die McCarthy 4x4 Club en McCarthy Toyota Silverton het Sondag, 20 Julie '08, 'n baie suksesvolle klubdag gehad, met baie mense en voertuie wat die pret dag baie geniet het. A.g.v. al die deelnemende voertuie, het die dag baie lank aangehou. Met die fondsinsameling vir die komberse vir die *Jakaranda 94.2* veldtog is die mooi bedrag van R3'150 gein. Die fondse is by Jakaranda se kantore in Midrand afgelewer. McCarthy 4x4 Klub en McCarthy Toyota Sinoville wil graag al die ander 4x4 klubs asook al die ander motor handelaars uitdaag om die bedrag te verbeter. Dit gaan immers vir 'n baie goeie doel.

Anthonie
Tel: (012) 653 9428
Sel: 082 928 7702



THE AMATOLA OFF ROAD CLUB EAST LONDON Reach for a Dream-Outing

One of the most important events on our club's calendar took place on the 5th July '08. The 10 kids that were brought out to the farm by bus, were all cancer patients from the Frere Hospital. The kids were taken to the garden, where they could look at and touch tortoises, bunnies, ducks, turkeys and chickens. The kids were then helped into four 4x4 vehicles to go for a drive along a "scenic" route. The route turned out to be very exciting for the passengers. There were some steep descents, hill climbs and river crossings to negotiate and the kids had a ball! Afterwards the kids had lunch consisting of soup, sandwiches, cookies and fruit juice. They were also given gift hampers from Johnson & Johnson and some story-books. Because of their medical condition the kids tire very quickly and had to be taken back to the Frere after lunch.



The Land Cruiser Club Southern Africa contributes towards a sponsorship for a new field vehicle for the Desert Lion Project in Namibia.

The Land Cruiser Club Southern Africa (LCCSA), in collaboration with the WWF LIFE Program in Namibia, raised funds for the procurement of a new field vehicle for the Desert Lion Conservation Project (DLP) in Namibia. The vehicle was delivered to Dr Philip Stander of the DLP in Walvis Bay, Namibia, on 28 June 2008.

The previous field vehicle for the DLP was a 1983 Toyota Hilux acquired by Dr Philip Stander, who runs the DLP, in May 1983 when he served as a ranger in the Etosha National Park. "Hagar", as the Hilux was known, had a colourful history of working in a wide range of conservation projects in Namibia over

the past 24 years. Having logged over 500,000 km of hard fieldwork, "Hagar" was fast approaching the end of its useful service life. The proposal to raise funds for a new DLP field vehicle was met with overwhelming support from LCCSA members.

Adolf Hüster of the LCCSA approached Dr Stander in January 2008 with a proposal to raise funds for the procurement of a new field vehicle. In early February 2008 the WWF LIFE Program in Namibia had also secured a grant of USD 35 000 towards a new field vehicle for the DLP. When the LCCSA learnt about this development, discussions with the WWF ensued to combine the two initiatives. By combining the two initiatives sufficient funds could be accrued to not only procure a late model vehicle, but also to equip it with accessories and equipment that would great-

ly enhance its suitability for DLP fieldwork.

By early April 2008 the LCCSA members and other contributors had managed to raise the target amount.

This is however not the end of this project. The LCCSA and DLP forged a long term relationship through this vehicle sponsorship. The Club will remain involved with Dr Stander's project. The DLP has many other needs as Well, which the Club will assess with a view to support in the long run. More information on the Desert Lion Conservation Project can be obtained at www.desertlion.info

The photograph herewith is of Hagar the Hilux, the now retired field vehicle.



Associates Corner

LA Sport Action Track Adventures is offering driver training on Saturday, 13 September 2008.

- Venue: LA Sport Action Track, 385 Voortrekkers Road, Gezina, Pretoria
 - Date: Saturday, 13 September 2008
 - Time: 08h00
 - Cost: R969 per driver with a navigator and includes lunch for two people
- Bookings: Marius Murray, Cell: 079 498 9810 or email: atamarius@lasport.co.za



You gotta love an honest woman!



AAWDC SECRETARY TAKES CEMENT INTO LESOTHO

The AAWDC Secretary Nico Pienaar, took 23 vehicles into Lesotho on 8 - 10 August. The objective of this trip was to deliver cement, blankets, clothes, Bibles, food, stationary to a little place called Letsobeng. The mission was completed and 10 tons of cement and other goods were delivered on 9 August 2008.

From a 4 wheel drive vision, some lessons were learnt:

1. Never put fancy mag rims on a 4x4 and go into the bush. We lost a rim on one of the vehicles as a stone punctured the tyre and the fancy rim disintegrated.

2. When in convoy, stay in convoy. After unloading, we turned around. When we stopped to ensure that all the vehicles get up a very bad patch in the road, 3 vehicles decided to start running ahead. Not a major problem as this was the only road, if you can call it that. But then, around a corner down a very steep downhill, a vehicle coming from the front, pulling a trailer with 3 cows on, had got stuck and was busy working his way over a cliff. The convoy leader could not get to this vehicle to help, as these three vehicles were blocking the road. They then battled to get out of the way to let the other vehicles through, who could recover the poor bloke with the trailer and the cows on it. At least it was action, but also

brought the point home that in front runs the leader, with a vehicle that can recover i.e. winches, ropes and experience.

3. Always re-fuel. Generally we, coming from big cities, think that fuel is available at all places. When the convoy leader says fill up, then fill up. We had some vehicles that were running low on fuel although it had been made clear that fuel is scarce in Lesotho.

We had a great weekend, saw places that very few people have seen, did not see snow really, only patches, did not get cold and did not break our vehicles.

Nico

The following is an extract which appeared in the August 2008 edition of Leisure Wheels (Text: Danie Botha, Photographs: Ciaran Nunan):

Delivering sporting gear, including complete soccer goalposts and netball posts to a primary school seems rather straightforward. But this was the Theetsoa Primary School on Lesotho's "Roof of Africa". And this is how the Isuzu off-Road Club spent 12 hours in covering 14km to deliver hope and dreams to Theetsoa's children:

After breakfast, the day started in earnest with the loading of sand used in erecting the goalposts and netball posts at Theetsoa Primary School.

By 7am the convoy was on the move. Heavy rains in the weeks before our visit had washed away most of the gravel. The section which some of the IOC members referred to as "the highway" following a visit the previous year, was a boulder-strewn mess, with deep ruts making things even more difficult.

Sometimes first gear in low range was just not slow enough, so the clutch worked overtime. Some inclines were so steep that the "spotter", standing directly in front of the ISUZU's nose with his hands as high in the air as possible, was not visible from the 250's cabin. It was tedious, and at times, nerve-racking stuff. The rear diff lock, which I would normally only use in extreme 4x4 situations, was never off.

By lunchtime we had covered approximately 5km, following two incidents of deflated tyres coming off rims. It was

highly impressive, watching the IOC members at work, always lending a hand to whoever needed it. Others offered their help by providing cold drinks for the sweating men busy putting a tyre back onto its rim.

We were steadily climbing higher towards the Roof of Africa. And, with this climb, came the drop-offs—drop-offs so high and steep, one felt, if the 250 went over the edge it wouldn't stop rolling until it got to Maseru, 100km away.

Finally, at 7pm, 12 hours after we'd started off, we drove into the village, and called on the local chief. We were all tired, dirty and thirsty, but very relieved to have reached our destination.

We were up at 6am the next morning. After coffee we started on what we had come here to do. Every single person, man and woman, started swinging pick axes, digging holes, putting netball posts together, inflating soccer balls, marking out the soccer field, mixing the chalk... the school was a hive of activity.

By 11am we were finished. Children were everywhere, chattering excitedly. Then the soccer balls came out... and for a brief moment, it seemed as if every single child had held his or her breath. Silence.

It was followed by more excited jabbering, pointing. The same sequence followed when the netball balls were revealed. And the cricket gear. And the bags of oranges.

We were all tired, very dirty, thirsty... but the experience with the children that morning had made it all worthwhile.

Thanks to the enthusiastic members of the ISUZU Off-Road Club, the Theetsoa children now have proper sporting gear. What an experience. What a group of people... and hell, what a trip.



OFF-ROAD RADIO LICENCES

It is an offence for anyone to operate a two-way radio without the necessary license, and in fact, also for anyone to sell such an apparatus without establishing whether the purchaser is licensed. ORRA is aware that the authorities are clamping down on unlicensed radios, and we strongly suggest that you ensure that you have the correct license. The fines are prohibitive.

ORRA holds some licenses from the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA), and provides these licenses to members on behalf of ICASA. Through ORRA the application for licenses is made much easier while ORRA abides in all re-

spects with the regulations as set down in the Radio Act. Members of 4x4 Clubs will find that it is easier to obtain a license through ORRA than through the offices of ICASA, although a small administration fee needs to be paid. ORRA expects that all license holders will use proper procedures, and to remember that rudeness and bad language is an offense under the Radio Act. The 29 MHz band is a shared band, and users should always afford anyone using the channel the same courtesy as they would expect.

On extended trips, in convoy, the correct use of radios ensure that all in the convoy can keep in contact with one another. In spite of this, radios do sometimes develop

faults, and it is recommended that in convoys, the front vehicle always keeps the following vehicle in sight.

Any queries that you may have with regard to radios should be addressed to the ORRA Administrator, Kim Carmichael, on 0861 393 272 or email: fwdcsa@icon.co.za.



OFF-ROAD RESCUE UNIT

ORRU has a permanent team of volunteers, who are all members of the 4x4 club and who utilize their own time and equipment to assist in the event of disaster or search and rescue.

They have built up an outstanding track record over the years and have played a vital role in saving lives. The objective of the club, is to assist when and where possible. The prime objective is to provide efficient, logistical support, either by means of off road transport or communications.

As all the vehicles are equipped with VHF radios, they are able to assist with the relaying of radio communications in difficult areas and between different organizations on land, sea and air. The ORRU works closely with organizations like The Mountain Club of South Africa, National Sea Rescue, Metro

Rescue Services, The South African Airforce, as well as the South African Police.

The unit also likes to work closely with the Conservation unit and to assist them when necessary.

The ORRU is actively recruiting new members.

Why should I volunteer?

- 4x4 Owners have a poor public image. This is a chance to prove otherwise.

- Your support can and will make a difference. Safely and quickly, people and equipment can be moved from command or staging areas, closer to where it is required. Food and drinks can be taken to where the action is. Tired and hungry people can be brought back for food and rest.

- You get to drive your vehicle to places you might not normally be allowed to go.

- You are part of the action and really helping.

What do I need?

- An off-road vehicle.
- An ability to drive it skillfully.
- A radio and a cellphone.
- A basic first-aid kit.
- Suitable clothing for cold and wet weather.

How do I sign up?

Contact Ivor Rimmer:

ivor@bateleur.co.za



AAWDC benefit statement

HISTORY OF THE AAWDC

The Association of AllWheel Drive Clubs of Southern Africa (AAWDC) had its inaugural meeting in 1993. It was formed by the three major Four Wheel Drive Clubs in South Africa: the *Four Wheel Drive Club of Southern Africa*, the *S.A. Jeep Club* and the *Land Rover Owners Club of Southern Africa*. Today the Member Clubs and Associates are spread over all the provinces of South Africa, Swaziland and Botswana.

OBJECTIVES OF THE AAWDC

To promote and support the activities and interests of "all wheel drive clubs in Southern Africa". (Herein after referred to as 'Clubs') Also, who are members of the Association, relating to the protection, preservation and conservation of our fauna & flora, natural resources and places of off-road recreation, in Southern Africa.

The ancillary objectives of the Association are:

- To have a voice and to liaise with any person, body, authority or Government structure for the purpose of achieving the main objective of the Association, including but not limited to:
 1. The Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism.
 2. Road Traffic authorities.
 3. Civil Defence authorities.
 4. Nature Conservation authorities and bodies.
- To institute a code of conduct for the members of the member Clubs.
- To promote safe practices and procedures with member Clubs.
- To gather and supply information to members of the Association.
- To establish or to assist in establishing new Clubs.
- To co-ordinate and encourage Clubs to get involved in Civil Defence/Search and Rescue.
- To communicate and benchmark on a global & local level with associations, member clubs, associate members and other decision makers on matters relating to the all wheel drive vehicles and outdoor lifestyles.
- To professionally develop a Driver Competency Qualification Program, Driver Training Program and Instruction Manual.
- To develop, maintain and promote an Associate program where related businesses can join the AAWDC as Associated members to the benefit of those Associates and the AAWDC member clubs.

Clubs or individuals who are interested to join or want more information on the AAWDC, can forward their request to Isla Blasa at 08611 AAWDC or members@awdc.org.za