



February 2010

**Bi-monthly AAWDC Newsletter**

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

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Check out the website:  
[www.aawdc.org.za](http://www.aawdc.org.za) for all upcoming events!



Jakob Jordaan  
Chairman AAWDC

## AAWDC Newsletter – February 2010

Colleagues,

The National Off-Road Workgroup (NOW) is a section 21 company with seven members (shareholders). The AAWDC is one of the members and the AAWDC has elected and nominated myself as one of the Directors on the NOW Board. With my recent appointment as Convener of NOW the AAWDC needs to elect a new Director to represent the AAWDC on the NOW Board.

The AAWDC is looking for an affiliated club member to volunteer and be elected as its representative Director. The following will be expected from such a member:

- To represent the AAWDC and its matters on NOW.
- To report NOW matters and progress at the AAWDC Committee meetings.
- To fully understand the AAWDC Strategy, Objectives, Constitution and Code of Conduct.
- To fully understand the NOW Strategy and Implementation Framework towards Co-Regulation of the National Off-Road Sector in South Africa.
- To fully understand the responsibilities of being a Director of the NOW Section 21 company as well as the implications of being a director of a company as is set out in the King III report.
- To participate in a monthly (except for those months in which a NOW Board meeting is held) Director's meeting on the last Tuesday of the month between 0700 and 0900 via a teleconference.
- To attend quarterly full day NOW Board meetings (of which one meeting will be an AGM) during February, May, July and October each year on the last Friday of the month. (A monetary compensation is available for attending Board meetings upon approval of the NOW Board)

Interested candidates should forward a brief CV to the AAWDC Administrator, Isla Blasa at [admin@aawdc.org.za](mailto:admin@aawdc.org.za), before end of work on Friday 19 February 2010. Those that need more info are welcome to contact me personally at 082-808-1422.

Remember that the AAWDC AGM is scheduled for Tuesday evening 23 February 2010. Hope to see you all there!!

Jakob Jordaan  
Chairman.



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## **AAWDC POSITION**

We still have one very exciting position available in the AAWDC.

We are looking for a person that could lead our effort to develop and finalise an AAWDC Overland Travel Manual. The idea with this manual is to be a guiding document to club members when putting long and overland trips together. Our current Vice Chairman, Mike Ilsley, who filled this position before, has done a lot of preparation work and the basic structure has been approved by the AAWDC Committee.

Overland travel Chairman:

- Develop and promote an AAWDC Overland Training Manual (OTM) in line with current best practises.
- Promote interclub relations by accommodating representatives from the AAWDC membership base in developing and maintaining the DTM.

Interested parties can forward their detail to Isla at [admin@aawdc.org.za](mailto:admin@aawdc.org.za). If anybody needs more info they can contact Jakob at 082-808-1422.

## **AAWDC Environmental Project**

The AAWDC Environmental Project Strategy has been thought about and planned for some time now and with the appointment of Doug Norval to the committee as the Chairman of the Environmental Portfolio, the project is taking shape.

The core aim of the environmental project strategy is to build up a positive public image of the AAWDC, it's affiliated clubs & the average 4x4 owner by developing and maintaining a National Environmental project through the utilisation & strengthening of interclub relations.

The main criteria of this project are:

Should generally be within the RSA boundaries.

Should generally require a 4x4 & GPS irrespective of geographic position.

Should generally provide the AAWDC with long term positive PRO exposure.

Should generally provide partner conservation bodies with logistical & physical assistance.

To meet these requirements of the project, Doug is promoting an alliance between the Endangered Wildlife Trust and the AAWDC. The EWT is a International Wildlife & Conservation body that has a number of ongoing projects around Southern Africa. The AAWDC is the representative body for the all-wheel drive vehicle & lifestyle clubs and has member clubs spread throughout South Africa.

To date, the representatives of the EWT & AAWDC Committee have met and are finalising a Memorandum of agreement between the two organisations which we hope will be finalised by end February. Ultimately, the result of this alliance will be that all AAWDC member club, Members, will after a short introductory training session, be eligible to become involved in the various EWT projects. This assistance program will be managed by the Environmental Portfolio committee. The ongoing EWT projects and working groups are:

### **The Bat Conservation Group**

The Bat Conservation Group is dedicated to research and conservation of the approximately 65 species of insectivorous bats and the seven fruit-eating bats found in southern Africa. This is achieved through generating increased public participation in bat conservation, and active education and awareness programmes.



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### **The Birds of Prey Working Group**

The Birds of Prey Working Group actions conservation projects for the diurnal and nocturnal raptors of southern Africa. An amalgamation between the EWT's Raptor Conservation and Vulture Study Groups brought about this Working Group and strengthened the effectiveness of the birds of prey conservation network in the sub continent.

### **The Blue Swallow Working group**

The Blue Swallow Working Group works to prevent the disappearance of the critically endangered Blue Swallow, one of the most threatened birds in South Africa, and its threatened mist-belt grassland habitat, throughout the 10 range-state sub-Saharan African distribution range.

### **The Carnivore Conservation Group**

This group works tirelessly to improve the plight facing many of the carnivore species. Visible signs of their work include the "Honey Badger friendly" logo on bottles of honey in supermarkets, and ongoing monitoring and management of the Wild Dog populations around South Africa

### **The Conservation leadership Group**

The Conservation Leadership Group is building future leaders in conservation from the previously disadvantaged citizens of South Africa. Students on CLG programmes are mentored and trained in conservation theory and hands-on fieldwork to assist them in developing their own conservation vision and to become champions for the conservation cause in their communities.

### **The Ground Hornbill Working Group**

The Ground Hornbill Working Group was established to coordinate the wide spectrum of Ground Hornbill conservation activities, conduct field work, undertake applied research and investigate methods of mitigating and reducing the threats facing this species and its habitat.



### **The KZN Biodiversity Programme**

The focus for this KZN Biodiversity Programme is on activities that benefit both the environment as well as the people inhabiting these same areas.

### **The Law & Policy Working Group**

A small but important group, the Law and Policy Working Group offers the EWT greater access to many parliamentary processes, giving the Trust a voice in the development of policies and legislation relating to the environment, and allowing us to make a difference at this level too.



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### **The Marine & Coastal Working Group**

The aim of the Marine and Coastal Working Group is to work with partners to tackle some of the major threats and to promote healthy marine and coastal ecosystems. Initial collaborations include the Southern African Sustainable Seafood Initiative and Sharklife Conservation Group.

### **The Oribi Working Group**

The Oribi Working Group works towards ensuring the long-term survival of Oribi and their threatened grassland habitat. Working with landowners and conservation authorities the group co-ordinates conservation programmes covering education and awareness, habitat conservation, scientific research and population management.

### **The Wildlife Conflict Prevention group**

The Wildlife Conflict Prevention Group works to promote the correct management of agri-chemicals, to safely remove obsolete pesticides and to provide environmentally responsible alternatives to poisoning problem birds, bats and other wildlife species.

### **The Riverine Rabbit Working Group**

The Riverine Rabbit Working Group aims to ensure the survival of the critically endangered endemic Riverine Rabbit by implementing sound conservation programmes for the species and its unique Nama and Succulent Karoo habitat.



(pics are copyright EWT)



### **The South African Crane Working Group**

Cranes are among the most visible symbols of wetland and grassland conservation, highlighting the vulnerability of these ecosystems and the implications for people if the factors that threaten them, like pollution and the transformation of habitat, are not brought under control. SACWAG focuses on conserving all three of South Africa's crane species and their wetland and grassland habitats.

### **The African Crane, Wetlands & Community Programme**

The African Cranes, Wetlands and Community Programme aims to conserve Wattled Cranes and their wetland and grassland habitats by promoting cooperation in and among African nations in continental partnership with organisations and people who depend on these same habitats.

### **The Airports Company - Strategic partnership**

Our partnership with the Airports Company of South Africa has led to innovative solutions being developed to minimise wildlife problems at airports. Specially trained Border Collies are used to keep birds away from runways, thus providing a way to keep both wildlife and people safe by reducing the risk of bird strikes.

### **The Conservation Breeding Specialists Group Southern Africa**



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The CBSG is one of more than 125 IUCN Species Survival Commission specialist groups. The regionally-based CBSG Southern Africa operates as a partnership with the EWT and aims to catalyse local conservation action by developing processes and tools which support conservation decision-making and the effective management of threatened wildlife species and ecosystems.

#### **The Eskom Power lines Strategic Partnership**

This partnership has worked with great success to minimize the negative impacts of electricity utility structures such as pylons on large birds, especially vultures and cranes, and other wildlife in southern Africa.

#### **Traffic East / Southern Africa**

Monitoring the trade of flora and fauna, the South African office of TRAFFIC East/Southern African is housed at the EWT. TRAFFIC produces, for example, reports on trade in the Patagonian Toothfish as well as certain types of timber, and has a number of monitoring and capacity building programmes relating to trade.

#### **The National Biodiversity Stewardship Programme**

The Biodiversity Stewardship South Africa Programme's (BSSA) founding vision is to investigate the possibility of making use of innovative ways and develop conservation efforts which will focus outside of formerly protected reserves.

The Programme (BSSA) will be developing a generic, simple, but effective stewardship procedure to be implemented by Provincial authorities, which will significantly contribute to the expansion of the protected area network across the landscape in all biomes of South Africa .

#### **The Giant Bullfrog project**

With the IUCN having listed the Giant Bullfrog as "Near-Threatened" in southern Africa, there is a need to conduct research on this species, which resulted in the inception of a PhD research project in January 2003. During the course of 2004 the research project transpired into the official Giant Bullfrog Project (GBP) of the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT).

As can be seen by the wide scope of the working groups, there should be something of interest for everybody.

There are 3 levels of assistance that volunteers are required for. The first is a simple "eyes & ears" program. This is where you, as wildlife enthusiasts, on your normal trips, trails, overland holidays etc, keep an eye out for specific species such as The Secretary Bird, Ground Hornbill, Saddle bill Stork, The Blue & Wattled Crane, the blue Swallow, Oribi, Riverine Rabbit, African Wild Dog, the various vulture species, all Eagles and large Raptors etc and where possible take a GPS location reading and photograph and then send that info to us. This includes animals of the mentioned species that have been killed on the road. This campaign also includes looking for nests of Raptors & Vultures in power lines and communication towers etc. We are currently in negotiations with a sponsor who will promote this campaign through a competition format.

The second program will be where the various EWT projects will request help for a specific task and this will be passed through to the member clubs in the regional area of the task. This program could require you giving logistical assistance, taking water/grass or other samples, it could be helping to track various animals such as Wild Dog, it could also be physical labour in maintenance projects or assistance in educational projects.

The third part of the program is that we would encourage members to support and join the EWT or assist in various fundraising opportunities.

**We need a volunteer person from each club who will be their Environmental Co-coordinator.**



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For further information and queries, you can contact Doug at [environment@aawdc.org.za](mailto:environment@aawdc.org.za)

**McCarthy 4x4 Club**

McCarthy 4x4 Club program for the next 2 months of 2010 :

January

31st Outride

February

12 th to 14th Mabalingwe Camping weekend

20th Basic 4x4 training

21st Club Day(McCarthy Toyota Bruma will be the hosts)

March

13th Basic 4x4 training

14th Club Day(McCarthy Toyota Woodmead will be the hosts)

19th to 22nd Loskopdam breakaway

• **McCarthy 4x4 Club - BASIC 4X4 TRAINING**

***The second basic 4x4 training for 2010 will be Saturday 20 February at Rhino Park.*** The time will be 08h00 for 08h30. For the early birds there will be tea, coffee and Rusk's served.

The theoretical session starts round 08h30(duration approx. 90 minutes) followed by a practical session till approximately 13h00.

• **McCarthy 4x4 Club - CLUB DAY**

**The second Club Day for 2010 will be Sunday 21 February at Rhino Park.** McCarthy Toyota Bruma will be the hosts for the day. The day will start at 09h00, when we get together at the lapa opposite the clubhouse. At 09h30 there will be a short drivers briefing to give the program for the day. Small groups of approx. 10 4x4's will depart on the mountain trail. Further small groups will follow approx 10 minutes apart.

Round 12h30 the first vehicles will be back at the lapa. Fires will then be ready for a bring and braai. We will provide for pap & sauce.

As this is an open day you are welcome to invite family, friends, neighbours or anyone with a 4x4 to come and enjoy the day with us. It will not be necessary to book, as this is an organised day. We will be there!!!!

**Charges:** McCarthy 4x4 Club Members R60 per 4x4(You need to produce a valid membership card)  
Non McCarhy 4x4 Club Members R120 per 4x4

For any enquiries contact Anthonie Coetzee (Tel,) (012) 567 9623 or Cell 082 928 7702



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**The Nissan 4x4 Club supports this initiative:**

Northwest Nissan hou die 6de Maart 2010 n 4x4 dag vir die kinders van die Abraham Kriel Kindersorg, by Bosvark 4x4 baan op Robertbroom.

Ons vra so veel moontlik 4x4 mense om ons die dag te help, daar sal naasteby 60 kinders wees. Alhoewel Northwest Nissan dit reel is dit nie net vir Nissans nie, vir ons gaan dit oor die kinders, en ons gaan dit n groot sukses maak vir die kinders.

Die baan sal gratis wees, maar onthou ons is nie daar om vir ons self te 4x4 nie maar om die kinders te laat ry.

Ons het reeds twee springkastele gereel, en gaan kyk wat ons nog kan reel.

Ek wil net graag 'n reeling maak, Bosvark se kiosk gaan die kos en koeldrank vir die kinders met die hulp van sponsors, gratis bedien, maar in ruil moet ons, ons kos en koeldrank by hulle koop vir die dag, en as dit goedgenoeg is vir die kinders dan is dit goed genoeg vir my.

So nooi ASB. al julle 4x4 buddies om te kom help.

Theuhan van Dyk, NorthWest Nissan, Roodepoort



This is to inform and invite your club to enter the 2010 4x4 Fundi Challenge series.

The Bridgestone 4x4 Fundi Challenge is a skill driving event and not a timed driving event.

A team consists of 5 participants or less and I hope to see your entries soon.

4x4 Regards

Johan Mostert  
Marketing Department  
Bridgestone South Africa  
011 923 7500  
082 888 1991



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**ATA – LA Sport 4WD Action Track & Adventures**

Dear Ladies,

Our first Ladies Trip will kick-off in the magnificent Maluti Mountains! This will leave our men envious! Children are welcome to attend. We request that kiddies must at least be completely out of nappies and they must be able to brave the outdoors comfortably, without nagging. ALL ladies are welcome! No previous 4x4 Training or previous 4x4 experience is needed. I will patiently & gently guide you where necessary & show all that you need to know. My motto: If I can do it, then ANY lady can do it!

Date: 24-27 April 2010

Cost: R3, 876 per adult

S.O.G members - R3, 705

Rates for children on request

**Confirmation Date: by 31 March 2010**

Contact:

Graham - 082 325 9814 - [ata@lasport.co.za](mailto:ata@lasport.co.za)

Madelein - 082 613 0847 - [ata4x4@lantic.net](mailto:ata4x4@lantic.net)





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**Summer Special!!!**

**Level 1 4x4 Driver Training**

- Coffee & Rusks on arrival
- Mid morning refreshments
- Lunch & refreshment
- AAWDC certified certificate
- Theory & Practical

**R 550.00**  
Driver / Vehicle  
Navigator R 120.00  
Additional Driver R 350.00

Contact us on 087 802 0695      ata@lasport.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.



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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



### 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 respects 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 ensures 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.

The administration, address details and also the TEL/FAX numbers have all changed for ORRA.

<b>ADMINISTRATOR</b>	<b>Rina Stander</b>
<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER</b>	<b>012 379 1715 (08:00 – 12:00)</b>
<b>FAX</b>	<b>012 377 3975</b>
<b>E-MAIL</b>	<a href="mailto:orra@aawdc.org.za">orra@aawdc.org.za</a>
<b>POSTAL ADDRESS</b>	<b>PO Box 12566, Hatfield, 0028</b>

### IMPORTANT NOTICE:

1. If there are some clubs that need a radio course for their members must contact ORRA as there is a person available to do the course at the different clubs.
2. Any persons that have paid their money for their 2010 license, but have not received it, must contact ORRA. ORRA has received payments but the references are unknown to their system.



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## **AAWDC Strategy**

### **VISION**

The Vision of the Association of All Wheel Drive Clubs of Southern Africa is to promote and support the activities and interests of "all wheel drive clubs" in Southern Africa who are members of the association.

### **OBJECTIVES**

#### **1. LIAISON AND COMPLIANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AND OTHER REGULATORY BODIES**

- 1.1. To support the Strategy for Self Regulation for the Off-Road Sector through the National Off-Road Workgroup (NOW).
- 1.2. To comply with local and cross-border radio license legislation through the Off-Road Radio Association (ORRA).
- 1.3. To support Government and Emergency Management Service (EMS) rescue events through the Off-Road Rescue Unit (ORRU).
- 1.4. To support local and cross border disaster relief events through the Disaster Management Unit (DMU).

#### **2. PROMOTION OF STANDARDS IN THE OFF-ROAD SECTOR**

- 2.1. To promote 4x4 driver training standards through the Driver Training Manual (DTM).
- 2.2. To promote 4x4 overland travel standards through the Overland Travel Manual (OTM).
- 2.3. To promote the Driver Competency Qualification (DCC) that would enable access to Eco-Sensitive Areas.

#### **3. PROMOTION OF INTERCLUB RELATIONS**

- 3.1. To promote the Annual Interclub Fun day.
- 3.2. To organize a National 4x4 Environmental support project.
- 3.3. To maintain the 4-Words newsletter to member clubs.
- 3.4. To maintain an informative website.

#### **4. GROWING THE AAWDC MEMBERSHIP BASE**

- 4.1. To increase the AAWDC club- and associate membership base.
- 4.2. To assist member clubs to grow their membership base.

### **How to order Driver Training Manuals:**

Driver Training Manuals cost R50 each (excl. postage / courier fees.)

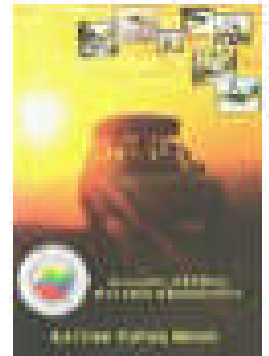
Please send your request with the quantity required, delivery requirements, as well as delivery address to:

[admin@aawdc.org.za](mailto:admin@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 Cape contact details for Driver Training Manuals:

AAWDC Cape

PO Box 1515  
Bellville  
7535

Tel: 021 913 9596

Fax: 086 678 8075

Email: [secretary-cape@aawdc.org.za](mailto:secretary-cape@aawdc.org.za)

### **Recovery Manual**

A recovery manual produced by Peter Claasen is available at a cost of R20-00. Contact Peter Claasen at [admin@4x4atv.org](mailto:admin@4x4atv.org) or cell: 082 558 6184.

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