

A QUARTERLY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OMD 2030 is a community organisation whose aim is to assist residents to transform Oranjemund into a town where citizens play an active role in building their own community and take pride in their collaborative and individual successes, as they create an economically diverse and culturally rich town.

COVID-19: We are in this together, Oranjemund

PREPARE, CARE, SHARE

Welcome to the first 2020 edition of our OMD 2030 newsletter, **The i**.

No one could have predicted the devastating global turmoil that the COVID-19 pandemic would cause in the three months since we published our last newsletter. **Our lives will never be the same.**

Now, more than ever, we need our local community to support each other, follow the health advice we have been given by reputable sources and be kind.....

Be kind to yourself. If you are struggling to make sense of what is going on, it is ok, give yourself some time to process your thoughts.

Be kind to your family, friends, neighbours and community members and help them if they need assistance.

The format of this edition of The i will be different than normal. As usual, we will update you on OMD 2030 news and projects. We will also share some of our future plans, with the hope that these will give everyone something to look forward to once the current crisis is over. We will however be concentrating on the implications that COVID-19 may have for us as community members.

COVID-19 does not respect gender, ethnicity, or age. Anyone can become infected. We ask you therefore to:

- PREPARE** – Ensure you follow official guidelines
- CARE** – Look after yourself and others
- SHARE** – Pass on useful information and ideas (make sure any factual information comes from a reputable source). Tell people how you are spending your time. What are you going to do when this is over?



Coretta Scott King

BE SAFE

Stay at home. If you have to go out, practice social distancing. Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly with soap and water, or use alcohol based sanitiser.

WE WILL GET THROUGH THIS

Find out more inside

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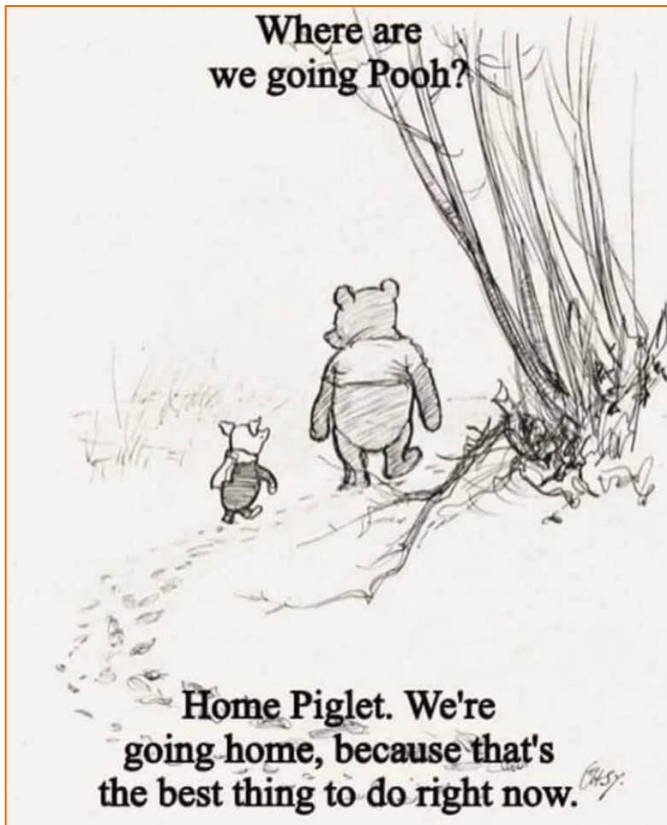
THE - NEWS: CORONA VIRUS DO'S..

Stay At Home

The most effective way to protect yourself from the virus is to make sure that you do not come into contact with it.


PLEASE STAY AT HOME

Only leave the house to buy essential supplies and for exercise. When you leave your home, ensure that you are using social distancing at all times



When Entering or Leaving Town

STOP at Swartkop screening station at the entrance to Oranjemund. This station will operate 24 hours a day and has been set up by Oranjemund Town Council (OTC) to protect the health and safety of residents. Listen to the instructions given by the screening official and follow the screening procedures below.



Public Notice

Friday, 27th March 2020

PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE FOR ORANJEMUND TOWN IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19: SCREENING STATION

The Oranjemund Town Council hereby informs all residents that an additional precautionary measure has been taken to control the spread of the Corona virus (COVID-19) in our community. The health, safety and well-being of our residents and community are our first priority. Therefore Council has taken the necessary steps to establish a screening station at the entrance of Oranjemund town- Swartkops.

The screening station will be **operational at all times as from Monday, 30th March 2020 until Monday, 20th April 2020**. Please cooperate with the screening officials and comply with their requests. **Below find the screening procedures.**

**CORONAVIRUS (COVID19)
SCREENING STATION: ORANJEMUND**

SCREENING PROCEDURE

1. Walk up to the Screening Point. The screening officer will check your body temperature and ask general questions about your health and travel history. 2. Complete the Ministry of Health Screening Form and give it to the screening officer.	
3. If your body temperature is within the normal range AND you have not travelled to any COVID19 high risk areas.	3. If your body temperature is above the normal range (>38°C) the screening officer will attend to you accordingly.
4. Return to your vehicle and proceed with your trip. Please observe Social Distancing of 1.5 m at all times. Don't touch your face. Wash and cook your food thoroughly and Wash/ Sanitize your hands at all times.	4. Await further instructions and assistance from the screening officer. Please observe Social Distancing of 1.5 m at all times

Council would like to thank everyone for your usual understanding and cooperation, the Town Council is urging all residents and visitors to accord our screening officials the necessary support to make this exercise a success. Do your part and take care of yourselves and others during this time.

Issued by: Office of the Chief Executive Officer Corporate Communications Tel: 063 233500/ 063 234952 Fax: 063233501	Enquiries: LED & Community services Mr Charles Kakuru Tel: 063 233500 / 063 234952/ 0811258883 Email: led@ormdc.com.na
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Follow the advice of the healthcare workers from our hospital

If You Have These Corona Virus Symptoms:

Dry cough, fever, breathing difficulties

Telephone the following local healthcare hotline number for help:

063 238 111

DO NOT GO TO THE HOSPITAL
 (You risk spreading your illness to patients and healthcare workers)

THE -NEWS: CORONA VIRUS DO'S..

General Precautions



CORONAVIRUS (COVID19) : ORANJEMUND TOWN

These guidelines are for YOUR protection.
Please follow these instructions.

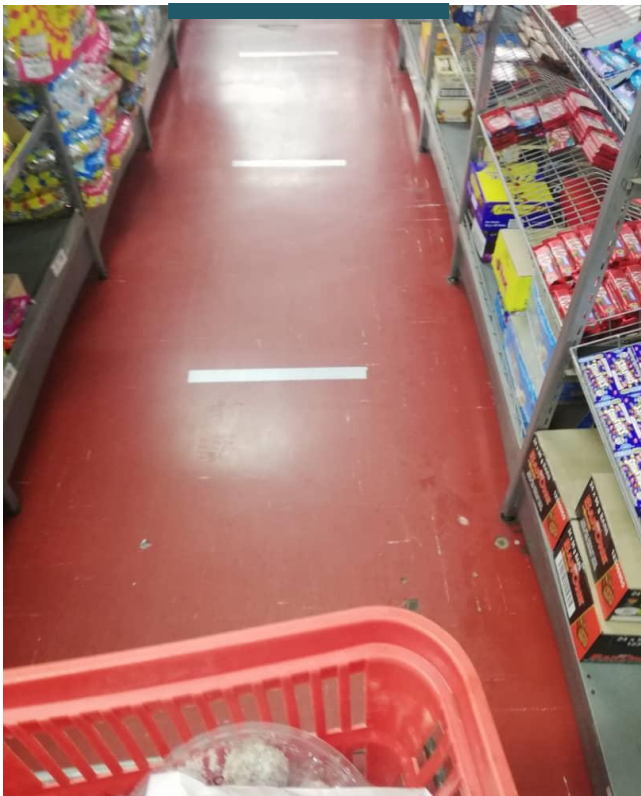


HOW CAN I PROTECT MYSELF FROM CORONAVIRUS?

1. **STAY AT HOME.** Work from home, if possible. Avoid public places and public gatherings of more than 10 people. Leave your house only to buy food, toiletries and medical supplies. Send **only 1 member of your family** to the shops **and leave your children at home.**
2. **SOCIAL DISTANCING:** Keep a distance of **1m or 1.5 meters** between yourself and other people **AT ALL TIMES.**
3. **HYGIENE:** Clean and disinfect your **clothes** immediately when you return from a public space. Clean and Disinfect **ALL surfaces** in your home daily.
4. **WASH YOUR HANDS WITH SOAP AND WATER FOR 20 SECONDS EVERY HOUR**
5. If you have flu like symptoms (coughing, sneezing, fever, shortness of breath). **Do not go to the hospital/ clinic.**
Call 0800 100 100 OR 063 238 111 and a nurse will assist you.

DO NOT PANIC !
FEAR AND PANIC WILL NOT PROTECT YOU FROM CORONAVIRUS

When Shopping



Keep Your Distance. Use the marked lines on the shop floor to help. Do not get closer than 1 metre to the nearest person

- **Make sure you are using Social Distancing.** Use the lines marked on the floor of the shops for guidance. **You must be at least 1 metre away** from the nearest person at all times
- **Only one person** from each household must visit the shop at any one time

**WHEN YOU CAN'T
CONTROL WHAT IS
HAPPENING, CHALLENGE
YOURSELF TO CONTROL
THE WAY YOU RESPOND
TO WHAT IS HAPPENING.
THAT IS WHERE THE
POWER IS.**
-UNKNOWN

THE - NEWS: CORONA VIRUS DO'S..

Be Active and Stay Positive

During the current emergency measures, it is important to make the most of every opportunity to participate in physical exercise. This not only helps with fitness, but is also beneficial to general health and wellbeing.

We are very privileged to live in such a scenic desert environment, where even when times are difficult, we can walk, run or cycle in our parks, among the dunes, along the Orange River, or at the Atlantic Ocean.

Other people are not so fortunate, and although none of us would wish to live the way we are forced to currently, Oranjemund is one of the safest places to be.

Precautionary measures state that when we are outside we must:

- Obey social distancing protocols and
- Exercise in groups containing a maximum of three people

Why not set aside some time to explore, relax and breathe.... What are you waiting for?

Think Positive, Be Positive



Take me to Oranjemund. My soul needs to breathe
Photo credit: Shanna Rae Groenewald



Maintaining a positive attitude gives us power over our circumstances, which helps us to cope during difficult times.

However challenging the current situation is, it will not last for ever. We will come through this crisis and when we do, we will be in a far better position to move on if we adopt a positive mindset. Make time today to laugh, have fun, be creative and plan. You will feel a whole lot better if you do....



THE **i** - NEWS: OMD 2030 COVID-19 RESPONSE

Connecting Our Community

OMD 2030, together with a team from OTC and Namdeb have been asked to spearhead the communications arm of the Oranjemund response to the COVID-19 pandemic. **Regular updates about what to do and how to cope will be made available via: posters in local languages** displayed in key areas around the town, community WhatsApp groups, OMD 2030 and OTC Facebook pages and other social Media sites. Information will also be available on Radio O-FM, the OMD 2030 and OTC websites and in the Oranjemund Community newsletter. Information in English and local languages has been made available to Baghdad, Moth Camp, Welwitschia and Swartkop via a communications roadshow that took place this week. We aim to ensure that every member of the Oranjemund community is kept up to date with how to keep safe and remain resilient during the current state of emergency.

In the next few weeks we will be rolling out more information, many more positivity messages, videos, community challenges and photos. We would really appreciate contributions to these from community members. In this way, even if we are unable to physically meet at this time, we can still keep the community in touch with each other.

Our first community challenge, is to ask you to send us your thoughts about the pandemic. They could span a few lines, or be longer, like the poem opposite. Amusing poems would be very welcome. Laughter is great for keeping our spirits up. **We particularly invite our learners to contribute to this challenge.** Schools have already been closed for a few weeks. How have you been spending your time? What would you like to say about being confined at home? Can you write a poem about your experiences that will make us laugh, or just share how you are feeling?

Post your thoughts and poems on our Facebook page using **#SharemyOMD #besafe #stayhome** or send them to info@omd2030.com

COVID-19 Information Sources

- **Noticeboard - Spar**
- **Community WhatsApp groups**
- **Radio O-FM**
- **OMD 2030 Facebook page**
<https://www.facebook.com/ORANJEMUND2030/>
- **OTC Facebook page::**
<https://www.facebook.com/OranjemundTC/>
- **OMD 2030 Website:** <https://omd2030.com/>
- **OTC Website:** <http://www.oranjemund-tc.com/>
- **Oranjemund Community Newsletter:**
<https://tinyurl.com/ormdnews>

Pause For A Moment.....

When this is over,
 May we never again
 Take for granted
 A handshake with a stranger
 Full shelves at the store
 Conversations with neighbours
 A crowded theatre
 Friday night out
 The taste of communion
 A routine check-up
 The school rush each morning
 Coffee with a friend
 The stadium roaring
 Each deep breath
 A boring Tuesday
 Life itself.

When this ends,
 may we find
 that we have become
 more like the people
 we wanted to be
 we were called to be
 we hoped to be
 and may we stay
 that way—better
 for each other
 because of the worst.

Laura Kelly Fanucci

THE : OMD 2030 PEOPLE

Management Committee (MC) & Members

At the latest OMD 2030 General Members meeting held during February, two extra members were elected to our MC. This new management structure allows us to apply to the Ministry of Health and Social Services to become a Welfare Organisation. If we are successful with this application, it will significantly assist us with future funding submissions. Congratulations and thank you to **Lilita Marques** and **Rosalia Imene**. Welcome to the MC team

At a recent MC meeting, **Nande Nickanor** accepted the role of MC Chairperson for 2020, after the Chairperson for the last two years, **Reverend Brendell** stepped down from this position. We would like to thank Reverend Brendell for all his efforts during this time and would also like to thank **Leena Leopold-Ndashaala** and **Sheena Schwartz** for their work as Treasurer and Secretary during the last year. The composition of the MC and a list of General Members for 2020 is given opposite.

Current OMD 2030 Management Committee:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Nande Nickanor | Chairperson |
| Lilita Marques | Vice Chairperson |
| Sheena Schwartz | Treasurer |
| Gift Kandukira | Secretary |
| Reverend Brendell | MC Member |
| Leena Leopold-Ndashaala | MC Member |
| Rosalia Imene | MC Member |

General Members

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Mara Beukes | Vicky Nghishekwa |
| Ekanjo Elombo | Minnie Roussouw |
| Hans Hans litula | Glennadette Scholtz |
| Portia Kalipa | Attie Stoltz |
| Loide Moses | Paulus Tuluwali |
| Mariam Nel | Ronel van der Merwe |
| Elliot Newaka | |

THE : OMD 2030 PEOPLE

Staff

We have recently had to say goodbye to staff member **Dené Kisting**. Dené initially joined us as a volunteer at the the start of 2019, before becoming a permanent staff member later in the year. Many of our positivity posters and the ideas for the chalkboard wall at the Hub came from Dené’s creativity. Thank you for your contribution to OMD 2030 and to **Making a New Oranjemund**, Dené and good luck with your new job.

We have also had to say a temporary goodbye to our Peace Corps Volunteer **Jon Doody**. Jon was among a group of American volunteers who were evacuated from Namibia at the start of the Corona virus epidemic. We have heard, that after an adventurous journey, he has now arrived home safely.

We would like to introduce you to our new Receptionist and Tourism Officer, **Garaldine Cloete**. Although Garaldine has only recently joined our organisation, she has already become the friendly face of OMD 2030. Welcome. We hope you will be very happy at the Hub.



Garaldine

THE i: OMD 2030 NEWS

Recent Events and Project News

At the beginning of March OMD 2030 held its first community meeting, during which we explained our role in the town transformation process, what we accomplished last year and what our plans are for the future. We would like to thank everyone that attended the event. We will schedule another information sharing session later in the year.



Nande addressing the information sharing meeting

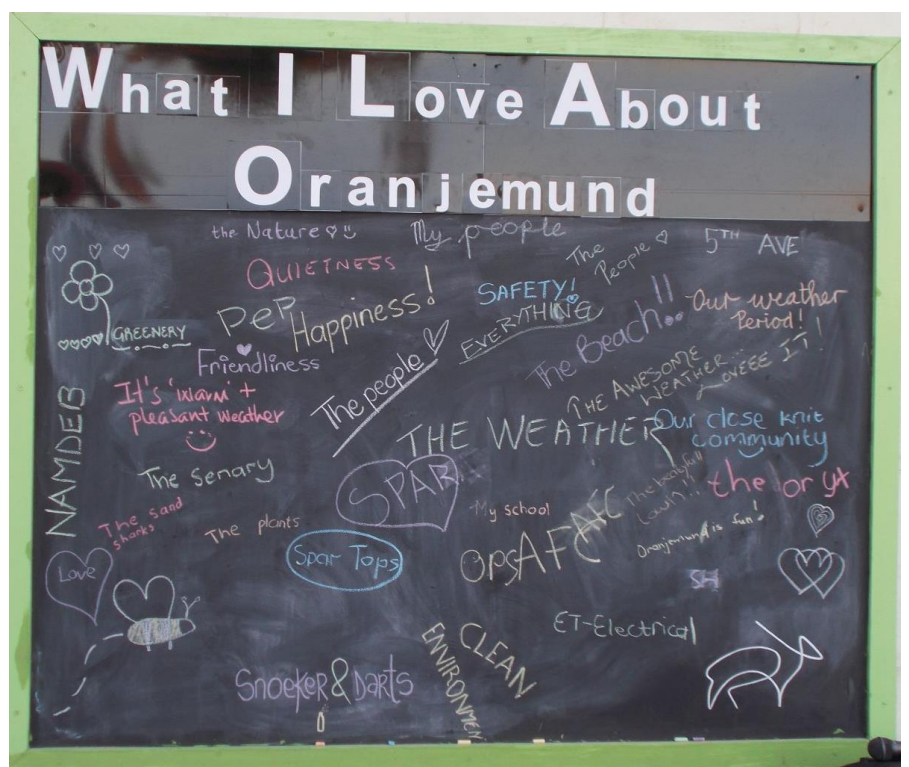


Soap and water donated by the community

OMD 2030 is proud to support an initiative driven by local residents **Venessa Isaacs** and **D'neal Stoffels**. As part of this initiative, the Hub acted as a collection point for Oranjemund citizens to drop off soap and water donations for disadvantaged members of our community, so that they could comply with the safe hand washing protocols needed during the corona virus epidemic. **Thank you for your compassion and kindness Venessa and D'neal.**

During our January and February Night Markets, residents were invited to capture their resolutions for 2020 and describe what they love about Oranjemund on our chalk boards. The thoughts about why Oranjemund is so great can be viewed below:

Our recycling project continues to be very well supported. We have a long way to go if we are to meet the target of 10 tonnes of waste by the end of 2020 though. The school sites may be closed currently, but waste material for recycling can still be dropped off at the Hub. We will also collect used batteries. **The more we recycle, the less waste we deposit at our landfill site.**



THE : OMD 2030 PROJECT NEWS

Night Market

The first two Night Markets for 2020 were very successful and each one was attended by over 140 people. Visitors to these markets were entertained by the !Garib-Ams Cultural group and the choir from the !Garibams Secondary School. Our next Night Market is currently scheduled for Friday May 8th but is dependent on the corona virus status at this time. We will keep you posted and look forward to welcoming you back when the time is right, and we can all support 'Living Local' again.



!Garib-Ams Cultural Group at the Hub Night Market

OMD 2030 Night Market Schedule 2020

NIGHT MARKET SCHEDULE

OMD 2030 PO Box 106, 18 7th Street, Oranjemund, Namibia
Phone: +264 (0)83 23 4323 Cell: +264 (0)81 62 55 407
mail: info@omd2030.com



	DATE	START TIME
JANUARY	31	18h00
FEBRUARY	28	18h00
MAY	08	18h00
JUNE	05	18h00
JULY	03	18h00
JULY	31	18h00
SEPTEMBER	04	18h00
OCTOBER	30	18h00
DECEMBER	04	18h00

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
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SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
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These dates are subject to change at any time and will be communicated in advance.

Town For Tomorrow

As Oranjemunders, we are very proud of our pristine desert environment, our urban oryx and the biodiversity hotspot that we call 'home'. OMD 2030 was therefore delighted when OTC agreed to our proposal for EcoAwards Namibia to come and perform an environmental sustainability audit of our town. This was a very brave, groundbreaking decision by OTC, and they should be applauded for buying into this initiative. **This type of assessment has never been performed in a municipal area before and so Oranjemund will become the first town in Namibia to receive an environmental sustainability accreditation**, once the report has been completed and the assessment has been finalised.

EcoAwards Namibia is an internationally acclaimed organisation that offers a sustainable tourism education and accreditation programme. See their website for details: <https://ecoawards-namibia.org/>.

All their members are graded using a series of one to five flowers, based on how sustainable the tourism experience on offer is. Many tourists select their accommodation based on these sorts of criteria and so it is almost becoming a necessity for tourism establishments to be run in an environmentally sustainable manner if they wish to survive.


The tourism assessment criteria have now been modified so that they are applicable to urban areas and Oranjemund will be the first town in Namibia to be assessed in this way.

All the stakeholders involved in the Oranjemund EcoAwards assessment are realistic and aware that there are many environmental practices that need changing in our town. Once the report has been published, an action plan will be implemented, and a further audit will take place to assess the progress we have made. **There will be a community education and action component to the action plan, and we will be enlisting your support to help us with this in the next few months. Watch this space.....**


WILDLIFE CONSERVATION TIPS

"We love animals, do you?"

MOST COMMON ANIMALS IN OUR AREA




Brown hyena are the rarest hyena species.
They love to scavenge along open beaches.
They are the second largest hyena in the world.



Female oryx like to be left alone during birthing and when they with their calves.
Oryx use their horns as weapons and can even kill lions.



Jackals can be found all over Africa and are therefore not considered endangered.
They eat human trash - keep yours tucked away.



Springbok are active at dusk and dawn - be vigilant during these times.
They are one of the fastest animals in the world - always be alert when driving across the beach road.

PLEASE...

Keep your home and our land wildlife friendly. Litter can be harmful for our wildlife.

.....

Avoid using dangerous chemicals and pesticides for your plants that our animals may feed on.

.....

Do not try to trap and harrass our wildlife.

.....

Do not feed our wildlife.

.....

Drive slowly and be vigilant of our animals to avoid collisions especially during the night.

.....

Keep your pets indoors away from wildlife.

.....

Never attempt to touch these wild animals.

.....

Spread awareness.

Reference: 30 Astounding Ways to Protect and Conserve Wildlife. Conserve Energy Future [online- Available: <https://www.conserve-energy-future.com/30-astounding-ways-to-protect-and-conserve-wildlife.php>]



THE : OMD 2030 PROJECT NEWS

Tourism

Understandably, tourism has taken a big hit during 2020. We fully support the current Namibian and African tourism initiatives that encourage visitors not to cancel their trips, but rather rebook for a later date after the COVID-19 pandemic is over.

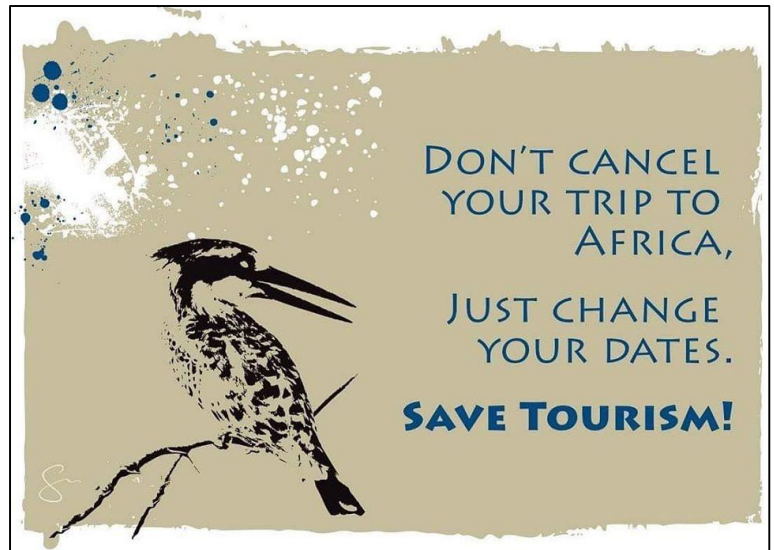
The Tourism Information Centre (TIC) at the Hub welcomed visitors from Germany, South Africa and Namibia during January and February. The centre now has several activity options available for tourists that visit Oranjemund including guided walks, cycling and driving routes, birding and fishing. All these activities will be available to be booked through the TIC at the Hub, once the current state of emergency is lifted. Our tourism consultant **Shanna Rae Groenewald** has met with all the tourism providers in town and has offered tourism and hospitality training workshops later in the year. We will also run training sessions at the border posts and for the taxi owners, when time permits.

We would like to run a local Tour Guide Training course with the assistance of Namibian Tour Guide Trainer **Edgar Naude** later in 2020. If you are interested in being part of this, please contact us via info@omd2030.com

Future OMD 2030 Projects

One of the first projects we would like to launch, once the emergency restrictions are removed, is a weekly **Park Run activity**. This would be a 5km run or walk open to all, from serious runners, to a family wanting a stroll. Wheelchairs, pushchairs and one well behaved dog (on a lead) per person will also be allowed. A group of volunteers is currently busy planning this event and we will send out more details as they become available. Parkrun is an international organisation that promotes active, healthy communities. Check out their website at <https://www.parkrun.co.za/> if you would like a taste of what we will be offering.

Oranjemund Learners will be involved in our Namibia flag project once the schools are operational. The flag mural has already been painted on the wall at the Hub and is just awaiting the finishing touches.....**We will reveal all at a later date.**



Check out a wonderful tourism video 'Endless Horizons' on the Namibian Tourism Board Facebook page.

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=6537558785024>
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Contractors Giovanni and Gabriel at the 'Namibian Flag Wall'

THE : COMMUNITY CORNER

A Final Word

◆ THE CATERPILLAR
GROWS
WINGS DURING A
SEASON
OF ISOLATION.
REMEMBER THAT
NEXT TIME
YOU'RE ALONE. ◆



On Behalf Of Everyone At OMD
2030:

**BE SAFE & STAY AT
HOME**

Emergency Numbers

- Fire/Ambulance (063) 235555
- Hospital Hotline (063) 238111
- Namdeb Security Ops (063) 236000
- Police (063) 232228

THE : OMD 2030 IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Contact us at:

STAFF

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Newsletter enquiries: newsletter@omd2030.com

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THE HUB


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Tel: 063 234 323
081 625 5407

Opening Hours: Monday to Friday
09:00 – 16:00
After hours, call us on: 081 625 5407

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Twitter & Instagram

Check out our website for tourism and
local information: www.omd2030.com

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