



Smiles for your Miles

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Future events
- First-Aid training
- Recap on One-Nighters
- Thunderdays Rally
- Southern Cross Endurance Ride



HOG Namibia Chapter Events Let's do this!

It is five months since the last Smiles for your Miles Newsletter and so much happened in the first five months of this calendar year. But before I take you down memory lane, I would like to focus on the up-coming events.

The reason for putting this topic up front is the fact that it is rather disappointing to see the lack of participation at planned events, by the HOG Namibia Chapter members.

One of the purposes of a Chapter is , and I quote :

The purpose of the local Chapter shall be to promote responsible Harley-Davidson motorcycling activities for Harley Owners Group members by conducting Chapter activities and encouraging participation in other H.O.G.® events.

The success of a Chapter is totally dependent on volunteers, Chapter members who, despite their private, busy lives, put up their hand to assist in the planning and execution of an event—TO THE BENEFIT OF FELLOW CHAPTER MEMBERS. To those volunteers, many thanks and sincere appreciation, every hand helps.

Let me also be realistic and admit that not all dates and events suit the respective members, as participation in a HOG event, might only feature at number five (or even lower) on the priority list - and with that no one will have a problem. But it is also a fact that the HOG Event Calendar is published a year in advance (possibly with minor changes), and it should give everyone the opportunity

to plan accordingly. Here, however, is an undeniable fact—Those who did participate in last events, had a time of their life!!

Thus, dedicate some of your time to Namibia HOG Chapter Events, participate in good fellowship and diarise the following dates :

Pack-riding, June 10,

Copper Ass, June 24,

Safe Rider Skills, July 8,

Charter Celebration, July 22,

Motorcycle Show, September 2

One-Nighter, September 23

Knobel Run, October 7,

AGM, November 4

Poppy Run, November 11.

Hope to see many more participants at the above-mentioned events.

Biker Barn—The Official H-D Dealership

Let's put "Doubtful Peter" to rest. At the AGM, we shared information with you that the SLA between HOG International and the previous principals of Harley-Davidson (Metje & Ziegler) would continue with Guillaume Kruger, taking full ownership of such SLA up to December 2024. Since the signing of such an agreement, Guillaume has tirelessly put everything into motion to officially open the doors to the only H-D Dealership in Namibia (Buy the man a beer). With numerous stumbling block in the way, the opening of the Dealership became reality on Friday, April 14, 2023., on the premises of the Old Powerstation in Windhoek, Southern Industrial Area. On Behalf of HOG Namibia Chapter, our heartiest congratulations, Guillaume, and be assured of our continued support and co-operation in our solid relationship.



First Aid and Accident Management

With the appointment of the Marshall Corps, the first point on the agenda, was to ensure that the Marshalls have the knowledge and to some extent, experience, as to how to act in a case of an accident during a pack-ride—or any ride, whatsoever.

We contacted the team at MED 24 and arranged for a morning session of training. Chanique came on board and the Marshalls were put through their

don'ts at an accident scene, how to successfully remove a

from the Bee Gees comes to mind)



The training was very well received and all are in agreement that this training should be repeated, to a wider group of HOG Namibia Chapter members, as such skill will also serve in any situation.

Anyway, we have peace of mind that skills are in -Chapter, should they be needed.

helmet, if needed, and, of course CPR. (Staying Alive



One-Nighters—Such Fun

The purpose of riding your bike and then having an event with sound fellowship, is the basis of the One-Nighters. Yes, it entails a turn-around trip of anything between 800km —1000km, but that is the point—to ride your bike.

The fellowship encountered once the destination has been reached, is an absolute bonus and in most instances, the lasting memory.

To date, we have had two One-Nighters. The first one in Tsumeb with Max and Charlene being the host at the Minen Hotel. Always a

welcoming venue. From getting a sun-burn in the pool to a cool setting in the hotel gardens with a braai under the stars was the event. Basie and Jodrene joined us and the dress-up also did not disappoint.

Then, the morning after the official opening of the H-D Dealership, a few braved the road to Hentiesbaai for the second One-Nighter. (Some did not make it due to vineyard flu) But the ride was good and the party even better. Hentiesbaai offered us the hospitality that can be



expected from a coastal town, we were greeted by the friends from the HA's and had a good stomach-liner from the caravan operated by Caroline's parents. The evening was bound to be a winner.



With the dress code of Pirates, the rum and coke took centre stage and the heat of a brewing East Wind on the ride home, did not make things any easier. Nevertheless, fun was had. Do you notice it is always the same crowd? Don't miss out on the next one in Maltahohe on September 23, 2023.

Royalty in our Midst



How many HOG Chapters can boast to say that they have a Prince as a member within the Chapter? Possibly not too many, but for the next year, the HOG Namibia Chapter has in its midst, the reigning Windhoek Karneval Prince—Prince Reinhard I, the Iron Rocker.

As per tradition, the HOG Chapter then also hosted the Thunderparade down Independence Avenue with any and all Harley Owners—and they came in their droves. The roaring V-Twins led the street procession, with an ice-

cold beer afterwards at the SKW. This most certainly is a highlight on our calendar as it unites Harley Owners in a day of fellowship.



Namibia Thunderdays

The bi-annual Namibia Thunderdays Rally was once again hosted by HOG Namibia Chapter over the weekend of May 5, 2023 at the Old Wheelers Club. The traditional Meet-and-Greet was held at the Handlebar on the evening of May 4, 2023 and the mood was set.

At the registration a challenging parkour track was laid out and many a brave rider put his/her

skills to the test. Respect to each and all! The rally itself was not attended by many delegates, but the ambience at the old Wheelers Club, the foot-tapping music of “Die Broers!” band and the excitement to be amongst Harley owners made up for it.

The two ride-outs to Omeya and Kapps Farm respectively produced some surprising results and the concourse with the three catego-

ries of Rat Bike, Thunder Bike and Bling-Bling Bike was a further highlight.

Thanks to the Rally Crew for their commitment in planning and executing the rally and we have learnt some good lessons in the preparation of the Skeleton Coast Rally scheduled in Swakopmund next year.



December 2023. Much is going on





Newsletter for HOG Namibia Chapter

If you wish to contribute personal stories or anecdotes to the Smiles for your Miles Newsletter send your article to holger.sircoulomb@gmail.com (and you might be published)

Correspondence to the Primary- or Secondary Officers should please be addressed to the Secretary, Bertie Gagliano, at b.gagliano@gmail.com.

Keep this big guy in your thoughts—he is going through deep waters right now with health issues and needs positive vibes coming his way.



With fondness, we remember the late Uwe—and Marie- Jean is committed to remain with the HOG Namibia family.



Smiles for your Miles



The Southern Cross Endurance Ride

We officially announced the Southern Cross Endurance Ride at the prize-giving at the Namibia Thunderdays Rally.

It is an endurance ride—one rider-one bike, over a distance of 2080 km within a defined time period (still to be confirmed). Gold, silver, and bronze pins/patches to recognize riders completing the endurance ride in specific cut-off times.

Parallel to the adventure of the endurance ride, we will also set up a fund, encouraging the riders to raise monies, which will ultimately be used to assist riders who, after a bike accident, have challenges meeting medical/hospital expenses, not covered by their respective medical aid cover. The fund will be administered by elected members within the biking community.

On Saturday, 20 May, 2023, when Winter made its presence felt for the first time, four of the HOG Namibia Chapter members undertook a recce run to test the feasibility of such undertaking and to set realistic time limits to the endurance, given that we would not want to encourage speeding and putting life and limb at risk.

The planning meetings had taken place and the respective routes of the cross were agreed to, given that the American Iron Butt was planned to be accomplished at the same time (not advisable).

The starting point (and perpetual return) was the Shell Truck Port and at 07:00 sharp, the first leg to Mariental took off. After 26 hours and 55 minutes, the endurance ride was completed, with two of the four Pioneers

To be fair, the other two riders encountered mechanical issues, left their bikes, but completed the adventure, accompanying the other two riders in a car and providing head light and back-up where they could. But it proves, that the ride is about endurance, both for rider and bike.

Nevertheless, congratulations on the achievement and the real McCoy takes place on weekend of August 26, 2023. Start preparing !!!

