

# OMD 2030



# NEWSLETTER

*December 2024*  
*Volume 8, Issue 3*

OMD 2030 is an independent Community Association and the Citizenry Partner of the Oranjemund Town Transformation Programme. Our role within this project is to encourage and facilitate active citizenry involvement in co-creating a sustainable, economically diverse, and culturally rich town.

## Each issue contains:

- Highlights and news about our most recent activities.
- A glimpse into our upcoming events.
- Important contact information.

## Three issues per year.

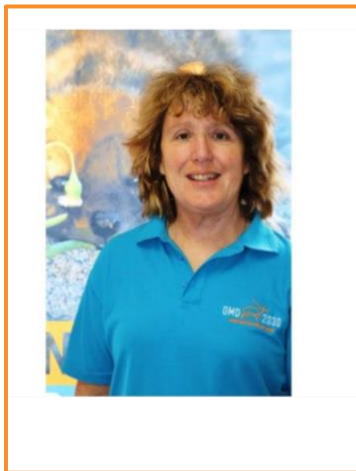


OMD 2030 Operations team

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# OMD 2030 General Manager Departure



*Sue Cooper*

As we come to the end of a busy but very fulfilling year it is a good time to spend a few moments reflecting on some of its highlights.

OMD 2030 fun runners clocked up a total of 3000km, 135 yoga hours were completed by active, flexible community yogis, Oranjemund residents dropped off 5500kg of recyclable materials at the OMD 2030 centres and over 250 people attended our final market of the year.

The inauguration of the Jasper House Museum shipwreck room generated a lot of excitement from locals and tourists alike. The museum, a joint stakeholder project with our partners Namdeb and OMDIs was visited by more than 1900 people from 19 countries during 2024 and it continues to be one of the biggest tourist attractions in town.

The visit of the mobile planetarium and the UNAM Choir were enjoyed by many residents of all ages during Namibian Heritage week and OMD 2030 delivered resilience workshops to learners in grades 6 and 7 in our primary schools.

Mentoring programmes were also piloted with some grade 6 learners, and these will continue in 2025. What a year it has been!

I am very proud to have been the General Manager of OMD 2030 for the last 6 years.

It has been an honour to have witnessed the personal growth and the team spirit of our talented staff members, and a privilege to work with and serve the Oranjemund community to the best of my ability.

I have lived and dreamed OMD 2030 during this time and my passion for this organisation and its vision will never change. However, it is now time for a new General Manager to lead OMD 2030, and to guide Oranjemund through the next stage of its social transformation journey.

Change is sometimes scary, but there can be no growth without change and I am confident that with the backing of the Oranjemund residents, OMD 2030 will continue to go from strength to strength, because 'People Really Do Make Places.'

Congratulations on being appointed as the next **General Manager of OMD 2030 Debbie Ashipala!** The organisation is safe in your hands.

Have a wonderful and restful festive break everyone.

***Sue Cooper***

# Keeping Our Environment Pristine

## Stakeholder collaboration



*Anti-littering signage at river mouth*



*Anti-littering signage in braai bungalows*

As part of our ongoing commitment to preserving the beauty of our town, **OMD 2030**, in collaboration with **OMDis** and the **Oranjemund Town Council**, has launched an initiative to install anti-littering signage at our beach and the Swartkops Hill viewing point.

It's crucial that we all work together to maintain the pristine condition of our environment throughout the year.

Our town is not only a vibrant community, but it also resides in a protected area rich with beautiful wildlife that deserves our care and attention.

As we approach the festive season, we want to remind all community members and visitors of the importance of cleaning up after themselves.

Whether you're enjoying a day at our stunning beach or taking in the views from the hilltop, please remember that each effort counts towards keeping our surroundings clean and enjoyable for everyone.

Let's create a culture of environmental stewardship where caring for our town becomes a shared responsibility.

Together, we can ensure that our natural spaces remain beautiful for generations to come.

**Thank you for doing your part!**

# Jasper House Museum – Heritage Week

This year, Namibian Heritage Week was celebrated with the theme **“Gemeenskap is Kultuur en Kultuur is Gemeenskap,”** which translates to **“Community is Culture and Culture is Community.”**

This theme underscores the deep connection between community and culture, highlighting how they enrich and shape one another.

Heritage Week ran from September 16 to September 22, 2024, with a series of engaging events hosted by the Jasper House Museum.

A few of the buildup events included cultural key ring classes at the Oranjemund Art Centre, and Mobile Planetarium presentations to local schools and community members. These activities showcased various aspects of Namibian culture, encouraging participation and fostering a sense of community spirit.

The pinnacle of the celebrations took place on September 21, marking a day of unity and cultural expression.

The program included speeches relating to the importance of Heritage and where it originates from, guests were entertained by the mighty UNAM Choir and array of local cultural group dances showcasing their unique traditions.

Overall, Heritage Week provided an excellent opportunity for individuals and families to come together, celebrate their cultural heritage, and reinforce the bonds within their communities.

Through these shared experiences, the importance of preserving and honoring cultural traditions was emphasized, making Heritage Week a significant occasion in the Namibian calendar.



*Baster cultural group performance*



*UNAM Planetarium with AAPS students*



*UNAM Choir performance*



# People Make Places

## FESTIVE NIGHT MARKET

We are thrilled to share the success of our special Festive Night Market held on the 29th of November!

The event was a delightful gathering that brought together community members of all ages, from young children to seniors, creating a warm and joyful atmosphere.

One of the highlights of the evening was the enchanting dance performances by two groups of talented children, which captivated the audience and added a magical touch to the festivities.

Additionally, we enjoyed wonderful musical acts from local artists Majory, Denzil, and Najee, who kept spirits high with their engaging performances.

A special visit from Santa Claus and his cheerful elves made the night even more memorable. Each child in attendance received a sweet packet, bringing smiles and joy to our little guests.

We are also pleased to announce that we have hosted four market events in 2024, with an impressive overall attendance of 540 people.

**Thank you to everyone who supported these events; your participation helps strengthen our community ties and creates lasting memories.**

**Stay tuned for more exciting events in the future!**



*Photos: Scenes from the Festive Night Market*

# Wellness & Resilience

## Inspiring The Youth

OMD 2030 has been dedicated to helping students build resilience through a series of impactful sessions for the past two years. This September, we proudly relaunched 18 resilience sessions for students from Ambrosius Amutenya Primary School and Oranjemund Private School.

Under the inspiring theme “How to Be Smart” these sessions are designed to empower young learners to overcome challenges and unlock their fullest potential. In today's fast-paced and ever-evolving world, fostering resilience is more important than ever.

Our sessions focus on equipping students with the tools they need to navigate setbacks, bolster their mental health, and develop into the best versions of themselves.

The sessions were held at various schools, engaging students in meaningful discussions and interactive activities that promote resilience.



*Resilience session at AAPS*

Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with many students sharing how the sessions have helped them tackle difficulties in their daily lives.

We wholeheartedly encourage parents and the community to join us in supporting this vital initiative.

By promoting resilience at home and fostering open conversations about mental well-being, we can create a nurturing environment for our young learners to thrive.

As we continue to inspire and uplift the next generation together, we can empower our students to embrace challenges and pursue their dreams with confidence!

## Empowering Healthier Lives

We are pleased to announce several significant updates regarding our community initiatives aimed at promoting health, wellness, and connection among all residents.

OMD 2030 has successfully hosted nine community fun run events, attracting an impressive total of **four hundred participants**.

Additionally, the Yoga and Movement program has conducted nine community yoga sessions since the beginning of 2024, with a total attendance of **sixty-seven participants**.

OMD 2030 extends its heartfelt gratitude to the Namdeb Wellness team, Yoga & Movement, and individuals whose contributions have been essential in coordinating these community events.



*Mental Health Awareness Run*



*Mental Health Awareness Run*

## And Finally.....



We hope you have found our newsletter informative and engaging. It has been crafted to provide a concise summary of some of our most recent projects in a manner that is both accessible and easy to comprehend.

Should you wish to learn more about our current initiatives, we invite you to visit us at the Hub, follow our social media channels, explore our YouTube channel for our latest videos, or access our websites for further information.



Subscribe

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### **FESTIVE OPERATING HOURS:**



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stated otherwise.***