

NEWSLETTER



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EACH ISSUE CONTAINS

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

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

At OMD 2030, we are committed to creating inclusive events that inspire connection and a sense of belonging.

Since the start of 2026, we have hosted three community fun runs and walks, a night market, and supported the Run Oranjemund Marathon, welcoming over 1000 attendees.

We are excited about what lies ahead and look forward to continuing this journey with you.

We look forward to bringing the community together through the following events:

April:

- 11-12** Nedbank Golf Day
- 18** Community Fun Fitness Day

May:

- 9-10** Tonga Winter Bliss
- 6** Tonga Ladies Night
- 16** Community Fun Run/Walk
- 29** Night Market
- 30-31** Lewcor Club Camps (Golf)

June:

- 13** Tonga Teens Party
- 20** Community Fun Run/Walk

July:

- 3** NG Kerk Basaar
- 18** Run/Walk
- 25** Community Fun Fitness Day

August:

- 1** King Price Regional Finals (Golf)
- 15** Corporate Golf Day
- 22** Community Fun Run/Walk
- 28** Community Day Market

September:

- 19** Community Fun Run/Walk

October:

- 10** Community Fun Run/Walk
- 31** Nashua Open Golf

November:

- 1** Nashua Open Golf
- 21** Community Street Festival 21 km Run
- 26-28** Community Street Festival

December:

- 5** Christmas Cup (Golf)

Please note that not all events listed are hosted by OMD 2030; however, they form part of the broader OMD 2030 Community Calendar. If you would like your event to be featured, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Running Into the New Year Together



On the morning of 24 January, the first OMD 2030 Community Fun Run/Walk of the year brought the community together in a simple but meaningful way. A total of 267 participants showed up, ready to start the morning with some movement and good company.

It was one of those mornings that just felt right. Families, friends, and neighbours shared the route, some running, others walking, all at their own pace. The event has never been about speed or distance. It is about showing up, getting active, and spending a bit of time with the people around you.

The strong turnout for the first event of the year was a great reminder of how much the community enjoys these moments together. OMD 2030 is grateful to everyone who came out and helped make the morning what it was, and looks forward to many more runs and walks like this throughout the year.



Market of Love Brings Community Together at The Hub

Held on Friday, 27 February 2026, the market captured the true spirit of the season. It was a celebration not only of love in the traditional sense, but of community, kindness, and support for local talent. Residents came together to share in an evening that reflected what makes Oranjemund unique.

From 16:00, The Hub transformed into a vibrant marketplace filled with colour, music, and friendly conversation. A total of 21 local vendors set up their stalls, offering a delightful variety of products. Visitors could browse everything from delicious homemade treats and freshly prepared food to beautiful plants, handmade crafts, and creative art pieces.

Local favourite DJ SoulQue provided the soundtrack for the evening. His upbeat selection of music kept the energy lively throughout the market, with both children and adults enjoying the rhythm and even taking to the dance floor.

As the evening unfolded, the market welcomed an estimated 200 visitors who came to explore the stalls, support local entrepreneurs, and spend quality time with friends and family. Laughter and conversation filled the space as people connected, shopped, and celebrated the simple joy of being together.

For those who attended, it was an evening filled with warmth, creativity, and shared moments. For those who missed it, more opportunities are on the horizon. Residents are encouraged to follow the OMD 2030 social media pages for updates on upcoming events and future night markets. With the continued support of the community, these gatherings promise to remain a cherished part of Oranjemund's social calendar.



Oranjemund Netball Youth Club: Building a Stronger Future



Written By: Raylene van Staden (Team Manager, Oranjemund Netball Youth Club)

Established in 2021 as the Netball Community Club, our team was born out of a need for a netball presence in Oranjemund. With no other netball teams in the area, our founding members took the initiative to create a platform for netball enthusiasts to come together. We began playing as Oranjemund Community Netball, competing against teams from Karusburg, Noordoewer, Luderitz, and Rosh Pinah. Despite the challenges, we achieved notable successes, including a first-place finish in Karusburg, where we were awarded a trophy.

As the netball landscape in Oranjemund evolved, we adapted and transformed. With the emergence of new teams, we transitioned from a community-based club to a youth-focused team, adopting the name Oranjemund Netball Youth Club. We have since participated in prestigious tournaments, including the Mayoral Cup and Namdeb League.

Under my leadership, ONYC is poised to make a significant impact in the netball community. We have welcomed a new wave of talented players and are working tirelessly to develop their skills.

I am thrilled to report that our recent raffle ticket sale was a huge success, thanks to the overwhelming support from our community. The funds raised will go towards purchasing our very first team attire, a milestone moment for ONYC.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who purchased raffle tickets and supported our efforts. We also congratulate our winners: who took home the first, second, and third prizes, respectively.

We have recently registered for the Namdeb League which will take place on the 14th of March 2026 and are eager to showcase our abilities. Our recent friendly matches against ONC-Oranjemund Netball Club and Barloworld were a testament to the positive spirit and camaraderie that defines our team.

At ONYC, we are committed to fostering a culture of excellence, teamwork, and sportsmanship. We invite you to join us on this journey and support our efforts to become a leading netball team in the region.



Run Oranjemund Marathon Brings Community Together in Celebration of Fitness and Unity



People gathered early on Saturday, 28 March, for the Run Oranjemund Half Marathon, turning the quiet town into a vibrant hub as runners, walkers, cyclists, and supporters celebrated fitness and community spirit.

The marathon, which aims to be one of the town's most anticipated community events, promotes healthy lifestyles while strengthening the bonds between people. By encouraging people of all ages and fitness levels to participate, the event continues to highlight the importance of staying active while fostering a shared sense of pride in the community.



“Run Oranjemund is more than just a race, it's about bringing people together and creating something the whole community can be part of,” said Linda de Wit. “It was a great day with strong athletes pushing themselves, as well as others simply enjoying the experience along the beautiful, scenic routes just outside of town.”

Long before sunrise, participants began gathering at the starting area, their energy and excitement filling the cool morning air. Volunteers and organisers worked behind the scenes to ensure everything ran smoothly, while supporters lined **Continues on page 6...**

Continues.....parts of the route to cheer on participants. From seasoned runners aiming for personal bests to families enjoying a relaxed walk, the event drew a diverse group of participants united by a common goal.

The marathon featured several race categories, including 5 km, 10 km, 21 km, and 30 km MTB trail distances, giving participants a variety of challenges to choose from. The races showcased impressive performances from athletes across the region.

In the 5 km men’s category,

- 1st Marcelinus Rooi (21:04)
- 2nd Dino Van Rooi
- 3rd Daren Windstaan

In the women’s 5 km race,

- 1st Aurea Christiaan (33:45)
- 2nd Haukongo Foibe
- 3rd Luusa Ekandjo

In the 21 km half-marathon

- Men:
- 1st Kambwae Bernadinus (01:24:27)
 - 2nd Nghidimondjila Malakia
 - 3rd Kristian Nikodemus

- Women:
- 1st Loraine Van Rensburg (01:43:35)
 - 2nd Sonja van Kradenburg
 - 3rd Albertina Kondjamba.

The 30 km MTB race, the longest distance of the day, tested the endurance of the athletes.

- Men:**
- 1st Gerhardus Engelbrecht (01:44:24),
 - 2nd Morton van Kradenburg
 - 3rd Fernando Amadhila

- Women:**
- 1st Marcelle Blaauw (02:03:26)
 - 2nd Lilita Marques.

OMD 2030 Volunteers played a vital role by assisting at water points, guiding runners along the route, and helping with logistics to ensure the safety and comfort of participants. Local organisers and sponsors also contributed significantly, providing resources and support that made the event possible.



The 10 km race also delivered strong performances.

- Men:**
- 1st Samuel Amadhila (37:46)
 - 2nd Willemsen Mathys
 - 3rd Isai Paulus

- Women**
- 1st Elina Iileka crossed (58:00)
 - 2nd Rosalinde Iinane
 - 3rd Kaylan Beukes



Photo credit: Linda de Wit

A Promising Start for the OMD 2030 Recycling Project

29 January marked the first recycling collection of the year for the OMD 2030 Recycling Project, and it began on a very encouraging note. The strong turnout reflects a growing awareness within the community about the importance of recycling and responsible waste management.

During the collection, 16 full bags were gathered from the recycling points at The Hub, Oranjemund Private School, and Ambrosius Amutenya Primary School, with a combined weight of 1,498.5 kg. This single collection already exceeds the volume collected in any one month during the previous year, a clear indication that more residents and institutions are embracing the culture of recycling. This positive start to the year highlights the collective effort of the community in working towards a cleaner and more sustainable Oranjemund. As participation continues to grow, so does the impact of the initiative.

OMD 2030 extends sincere appreciation to Namdeb, SPAR, Oranjemund Private School, and Ambrosius Amutenya Primary School for their continued support and collaboration in making the recycling project a success.



Ministerial Visit to the Jasper house Museum

Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy

On 19 January, Oranjemund had the honour of welcoming Hon. Modestus Amutse, Minister of Industry, Mines and Energy, during his visit to the town.

As part of his itinerary, the Minister visited the Jasper House Museum, where he was introduced to the rich history and heritage of Oranjemund. The visit offered an opportunity to reflect on the town's unique legacy and the role it has played over the years.

It also created a valuable platform for engagement, allowing for meaningful discussions and the sharing of insights around ongoing work and future aspirations for the town. The visit was a reminder of the importance of preserving Oranjemund's history while continuing to look ahead to its future.



Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform



On 26 March 2026, the ministerial visit by Inge Zaamwani, Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Land Reform, marked an important milestone in advancing Oranjemund's development agenda, with a strong focus on heritage, community engagement, and economic diversification. The visit formed part of a broader engagement aimed at strengthening collaboration and reinforcing a shared vision for a sustainable and diversified local economy.

Honourable Zaamwani was taken on a guided tour of key operational sites. Among the highlights of the visit was a stop at the Jasper House Museum, a community-focused heritage site managed by OMD 2030.

At the museum, the Minister had the opportunity to engage with curated exhibitions that reflect the rich history of Oranjemund and its surrounding areas. The experience offered a deeper appreciation of the town's cultural identity and the role heritage plays.

The visit highlighted the importance of preserving local history as a resource for education and tourism, while showcasing OMD 2030's efforts to create spaces that are both engaging and accessible to the community.



Fire Safety Preparedness in Oranjemund

Written By: Embashu Naemi (Safety Manager) and Haitana Peneyambeko (Assistant Safety Manager), I-MAXX, Namibia

Road safety is often associated with wearing seatbelts, obeying speed limits, and driving responsibly. However, one important aspect that is sometimes overlooked is fire preparedness.

Through a recent initiative in Oranjemund, I-MAXX Namibia, a member of the Namibia Road Safety Forum, has been raising awareness about the importance of fire safety in vehicles. The initiative highlights the value of installing automatic fire extinguishers in cars and ensuring that drivers understand how to respond in the event of a vehicle fire.

Vehicle fires can occur unexpectedly due to electrical faults, fuel leaks, overheating engines, or accidents. Having a properly installed and functional automatic fire extinguisher can help detect and suppress fires at an early stage, reducing the risk of serious damage to people, property, and the environment.

In a remote and closely connected community such as Oranjemund, preparedness is especially important. Emergency services may take time to reach certain areas, which makes it essential for drivers and passengers to have both the knowledge and tools to act quickly and safely.

As part of the initiative, the I-MAXX team has engaged with community members, drivers, and local organisations to demonstrate the correct use of automatic fire extinguishers. Residents are also encouraged to install smoke detectors in their homes and to regularly service their vehicles to reduce the risk of fire caused by mechanical faults.

Ultimately, road safety is a shared responsibility. By promoting awareness, preparedness, and practical safety measures, initiatives like this help build a safer and more resilient community for everyone who lives in and travels through Oranjemund.



National Women’s History Month



Women continue to play an essential and inspiring role in shaping education and driving development within communities such as ours. As teachers, mentors, and leaders, they contribute far beyond classroom instruction, helping to build strong foundations for social growth and lifelong learning. When women are empowered through education, they pass that empowerment on, creating opportunities not only for themselves but for families and entire communities.

In many developing areas, women are central to community progress. Their leadership in schools, local organisations, and development initiatives helps promote collaboration, uplift vulnerable groups, and strengthen community values. Women’s natural focus on inclusivity and long-term well-being ensures that development is meaningful and sustainable. Whether through leading educational programmes, supporting youth initiatives, or driving community projects, women are often at the heart of positive change.

Written By: Connie Willemse

Within the education sector, women serve as powerful role models. Their presence in classrooms reinforces the importance of equality, perseverance, and respect. They help break cycles of poverty by equipping learners with skills, confidence, and hope for the future. Their influence goes beyond academics, they inspire leadership, nurture talent, and foster unity.

As we continue to work toward stronger, more resilient communities, supporting women’s education and leadership remains essential. When women thrive, communities flourish. A happy and blessed International Women’s Day to my sisters in Oranjemund and beyond who selfishly pour of themselves into others, I salute you and may we always be there to fix each other’s crowns. Michelle Obama reminds us that: “There is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish” and my personal Motto: “Go where there is no path and leave a trail”.



This National Women’s History Month, we celebrate the women of Oranjemund whose leadership, resilience and everyday dedication continue to shape our community. From classrooms to clinics, businesses to volunteer spaces, their contributions are the quiet force behind our town’s growth and strength.

**Did You Know?
The Orange in Oranjemund Isn't About the Colour**



Those names simply meant “river.” Which feels almost poetic. No fuss. Just the river. And considering how powerful and life-shaping it has been for centuries, that simple name carried weight.

Then, in 1777, a Dutch soldier of Scottish descent named Robert Jacob Gordon travelled to the river. Two years later, near its mouth, he decided to rename it in honour of William V, Prince of Orange.

And that's how it became the Orange River. Not because of the colour. But because of royalty.

A lot of people assume the Orange River is called that because the water sometimes looks brownish, even a little orange after heavy rains. Fair guess, honestly. It would make sense.

Which means Oranjemund, the “mouth of the Orange”, carries that layered history in its name. Indigenous roots. Colonial renaming. A river that has always mattered, no matter what it was called.

But that's not where the name comes from. Long before it was ever called the Orange River, it was known as the Gariiep or Eyn by the local Khoi people.

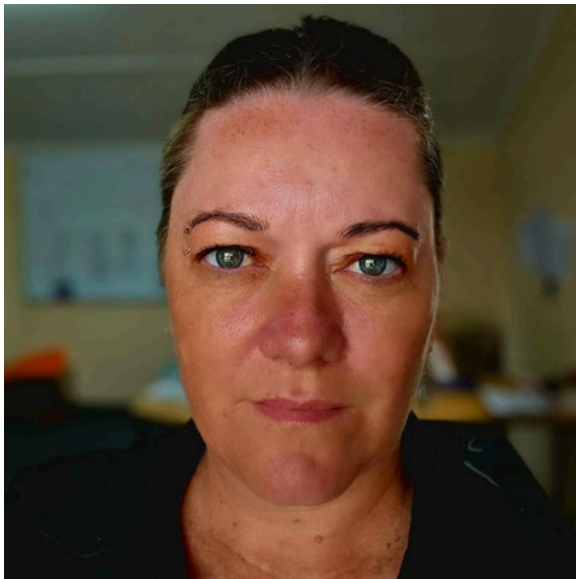
Kind of changes the way you say it, doesn't it?

Two Worlds, One Desert

The Sperrgebiet is one of the most untouched ecosystems on Earth, protected for decades by strict diamond security that kept human activity out, while , Oranjemund itself stands as a thriving green oasis in the middle of the desert, sustained entirely through irrigation and careful environmental management, a striking contrast where one region was preserved by keeping people out, and the other survives because of constant human care, both shaped by the same diamond industry. Without continuous human intervention, the town would revert to desert conditions very quickly, it's essentially an artificial oasis system.



Welcoming a new team member



Annemarie Van Der Merwe

We thrilled to officially welcome Annemarie Van Der Merwe to our team! We look forward to sharing this journey with her and collaborating to drive meaningful change in our community.

"I am honored to join the team and be part of a group dedicated to making a meaningful impact. I look forward to collaborating with passionate individuals, sharing ideas, and contributing my skills toward our shared goals. Being part of this team is an exciting opportunity to learn, grow, and help create positive change. Together, through teamwork and commitment, I believe we can achieve great things and make a lasting difference in our community." - Annemarie Van Der Merwe

"OMD 2030 plays a meaningful role in shaping the identity of Oranjemund by creating opportunities and intentional spaces where people can connect with their environment, their culture, and, most importantly, with each other.

But beyond the work, it is the people, this team, who truly bring our belief that People Make Places to life. We are a work in progress, but we show up, we serve, and we do so with purpose and passion.

We see you. We value you. And you truly matter." -Debbie Ashipala



Left to right: Eileen Jones, Debbie Ashipala, Olivia Shipundi, Alfred Ipinge, Rachel Erickson, Sofia Chiete, Annemarie Van Der Merwe

ON THE NOTICE BOARD

LOOKING FOR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN

Do you know a child in Oranjemund (age 4-13) with **special needs** who is **not in school**?

If yes, please provide the following information:

-  **Child's name**
-  **Date of birth**
-  **Gender**
-  **Diagnosis (optional)**

Help us gather this information. Because every child deserves to belong, to thrive, and to be included.

Whatsapp:  +264 81 388 8521  +264 81 452 7298



OMD 2030
MAKING A NEW ORANJEMUND

PEOPLE MAKE PLACES

MONTHLY STALLS FOR RENT

AT OMD 2030 (THE HUB) PREMISES - OPPOSITE SPAR

- Easy hassle free application in one day
- Seating for your customers

STALL RENTAL PRICE
N\$ 350.00 per month


PRICE INCLUDES

- ✔ Electricity
- ✔ Water
- ✔ Toilet facilities
- ✔ Wifi

CONTACT US TODAY

Rental price includes a free stall at all our Day & Night Markets

 reception@omd2030.com  063 23 43 23 / 081 625 5407




PEOPLE MAKE PLACES.

OMD 2030
MAKING A NEW ORANJEMUND

BE THE ONE WHO MAKES OURS.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

WHETHER YOU'RE PASSIONATE ABOUT TOURISM, ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, OR COMMUNITY EVENTS LIKE OUR MARKETS AND FUN RUNS/WALKS, THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU HERE.

 CALL US: 063 234 323 / 081 625 5407



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NB: UNFORTUNATELY WE DO NOT DO TYPING, EDITING OR PRINTING FROM CELLPHONES.

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And Finally

We hope you've enjoyed reading our newsletter! It's designed to give you a quick and easy update on some of our latest projects.

If you'd like to find out more about what we're working on, feel free to visit us at the Hub, follow us on social media, watch our latest videos on YouTube, or explore our websites:

 <https://omd2030.com/about-us/>

 <https://oranjemund-tourism.com/>

 <https://www.youtube.com/@OMD2030>

We'd love to connect with you!

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Opening Hours: Monday to Friday
09:00 – 16:00



*This newsletter was compiled and written by Alfried Ipinge,
OMD 2030 Project & Communications Officer.
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ORANJEMUND COMMUNITY STREET FESTIVAL

26-28 NOV 2026