



11 March 2010

Newsletter Number 6

Dear all

Another month has passed by and this means that we are another month closer to the event - but more importantly, we have had another month to work on the event and we are confident that the 2010 event will be an event to be proud of.

Cool Hand Trading who is handling all of the expo arrangements has indicated that the expo park should be fully booked soon. If there are companies out there that would like to sell / exhibit during the event, please get your bookings in early to avoid disappointment.

Entrance tickets for the event are on sale as of the end of February through the website, and the guaranteed seating stand is already proving to be a hit. There are only 1400 seats per day available on this stand and once they've all gone, seating will be on a first come, first served basis.

South African team sponsors and cycling clubs will have until the end of March to book their spots in the various buildings that lie adjacent to the track. Three venues have already been booked and come the end of March, these bookings will be opened to all comers and any sponsors that would like a dedicated building for their team will be able to make application.

The event has partnered with Liberty Midlands Mall in Pietermaritzburg and this will be the venue for a number of exciting developments over the next short while. Watch this space... Another exciting development is that South African Airways have taken footage from the 2009 UCI BMX Supercross World Cup staged in Pmb and will be broadcasting ten minute slots of this event on their in flight programming on all domestic flights and certain international flights in the months leading up to the event. This is excellent news for the event in particular and the sport in general and can only lead to bigger and better things.

We are all going to be watching with interest the progress of one of our own in the upcoming Cape Argus Pick n Pay Cycle Tour which takes place on Sunday 14th March. The Cycle Tour is the biggest timed mass participation cycling event in the world and is staged in Cape Town with 35 000 entries, and is 109km long over some pretty stiff climbs. Sharlene McGilvray, World No 2 in the 45+ Women's Cruiser Class, is doing the event on her BMX!! They are doing this to promote the 2010 UCI BMX World Championships as well as to raise funds for the Sunflower Fund - that raises money to fight leukemia. Have a look at her blog on our website for more information.

Go Sharlene and we are all pulling for you.....

Until next time, all the very best

Alec Lenferna
Event Director



Where to Stay

Please see the website www.bmxworldchampsmb.co.za for a comprehensive list of all the available accommodation available in and around Pietermaritzburg and Durban. As always, please contact Ecco Tours for more information.

Their contact details are:
<http://bmx.eccosports.biz>.

E-mail: bmx@eccotours.biz

Tel: (+27) 21 683 0069

Fax: (+27) 86 683 2097

The Venue

For more information on the competition venue, please visit www.bmxworldchampsmb.co.za and follow the venue links.

Bike Storage

There have been a number of queries regarding bike storage at the competition venue. There will be bike storage on site for all bikes. Details will be provided to team managers closer to the time.

Expo

An extensive sales and information expo will be in place at the event and this will be handled by Cool Hand Trading. For any enquiries about this expo and / or how to secure a site, please contact Murray at Cool Hand Trading, his email address being info@coolhandtrading.co.za.

Sponsor Sites

One of the unique characteristics of the competition venue is that there are a number of buildings throughout the grounds. Some of these in the appropriate areas will be utilized by the larger competing teams etc, and some of these buildings of different sizes are situated adjacent to the competition area.

Some of these houses will be made available to team or rider sponsors for the duration of the competition. There will be limited options available and if you are

interested in taking up one of these options, please let us know what requirements you have, and we will let you know the options and the related costs.

Please remember that the sponsor sites are meant for a VIP, sponsor hosting area, and should you wish to sell, or have the public interact with your product, you would need to book an expo site.

Please contact Liz at liz@realem.co.za

Ticketing

You can now purchase your event tickets online. From standard entry tickets to VIP packages, check out the options online.

Heroes and Characters in Pietermaritzburg

Famous people such as Mohandas Gandhi, Queen Victoria and Nelson Mandela have left their mark on history in our city. Even today, famous and beautiful people are attracted to our city. Here we introduce you to some of them and to some lesser known, but unique characters, some of whom you may meet in our streets.

Mohandas Gandhi

It was at Pietermaritzburg station that Gandhi was forcibly removed from a First Class carriage. This was the start of his politicisation and his Passive Resistance campaign. Look out for the Gandhi plaque in our station building and his statue in Church Street. His jail cell is at the old prison which now houses the activities of Project Gateway.

Queen Victoria

Look out for the statue of this influential leader outside our Parliament Buildings in Longmarket Street. It was during the reign of this regal lady that Pietermaritzburg grew into the magnificent 'Victorian' city that it is today.

Nelson Mandela

A man close to the hearts of our people, Mandela made his last speech - prior to incarceration on Robben Island for 27 years - at Imbali. He returned to our city on 25th April 1997 to be awarded the Freedom of our City. Look out for the monument near Howick marking the place of his arrest.

Town Crier

Hear Ye, Hear Ye, Hear Ye! So calls our colourful Town Crier as he rings his bell and announces the activities of the day. You will hear his booming voice at the Farmer's Market or down Church Street on a Saturday morning. Be sure to stop for a chat and add his photo or postcard to your collection.

Prince Imperial

Visit the Imperial Hotel in Jabu Ndlovu Street in remembrance of the French connection. This is the hotel from which the Prince Imperial of France rode out to meet his unfortunate death in an ambush during the Anglo Zulu War.

Piet Retief and Gert Maritz

When you visit the Msunduzi Museum Complex look out for the statues of Piet Retief and Gert Maritz, the two Voortrekker leaders after whom the city was named.

Chickenman

Don't miss a visit to the Tatham Art Gallery to find out about the unusual garden signs and art of Fanele Chickenman Mkhize. His work has been displayed in galleries worldwide. Before his untimely death in 1997 he would sit outside the gallery selling his work. Been there? Done that? Then make sure you get your Chickenman T-shirt before leaving town.

Pietermaritzburg Tourism's Ele

Pietermaritzburg's very own mascot, a fleecy grey elephant dressed in shorts and a golf shirt, is in the habit of pitching up at functions and delighting the crowds. Should you be fortunate enough to meet this happy fellow, be sure to ask him for a dance and pose with you for your next photo. He'll be charmed!

Visit the Pietermaritzburg Tourism website for more information (www.pmbtourism.co.za)

Contact us

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Top 10 reasons to visit South Africa

Affordable

During these tough times, who doesn't want an affordable holiday? In SA, you can even afford luxury and have spending money for shopping and other treats!

Natural Beauty

South Africa's scenic wonders are legendary. From Table Mountain to God's Window, our mountains, forests, coasts and deserts will feast your eye and lift your spirit...

World-class facilities

Whether you opt for Afro-chic or authentic Africa, you'll find it easy to get around, find a comfortable place to stay, have a great meal, connect.

Adventure

South Africa is the adventure capital of the world. With over 130 adventures and counting, there is something for everyone from mountain walks to shark cage-diving!

Good Weather

In sunny South Africa, our great weather invites you to enjoy the outdoors, play golf year-round and take advantage of the nearly 3000km coastline...

Rainbow Nation

The Rainbow Nation celebrates all its African and immigrant cultures. Find out how friendly our people are whilst you try your tongue at 11 official languages!

Diverse Experiences

Go almost anywhere in SA and experience the ultimate combo of nature, wildlife, culture, adventure, heritage and vibe - you're spoilt for choice, so pack it in!

Wildlife

Warning! Watching wildlife is addictive. First you start with the Big Five in so many ways, then whales, penguins, meerkats, wild dogs, birds, dung beetles...

Freedom Struggle

Discover a nation's struggle for freedom whilst following the footsteps of Mandela, Hector Pieterse and many other celebrated revolutionaries. It will touch and inspire you.

Responsible Tourism

In SA you can travel with care as you explore our protected areas, contribute to social and conservation projects, buy recycle art and stay green.

Visit South African Tourism for more information (www.southafrica.net)

Until next time.....