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SANNA Chairman's

message



Christo Bothma
SANNA Chairman

Greetings fellow Naturists, time flies when you're having fun. And fun is what we had all over South Africa this past holiday season. There were events held by the Provincial Associations (GNA and KZNNA) and very well attended.

Social media is becoming a big marketing tool for Naturism as the SANNA web page and Twitter has may more followers than in the past.

A highlight of the year was the visit to South Africa by Naked Wanderings (Nick and Lins). The visited the country for 3 months and had interaction with a lot of our Naturists. They visited Naturist as well as Textile venues because of the very few Naturist venues available in South Africa. It was such a honour to host them and just to get a feel of what Naturism is like in other countries that they have visited. Watch their videos on YouTube as they toured the country. SANNA is going through a growing phase and we have implemented new strategies going forward. The KZNNA AGM is on 19 Feb 2023 and GNA AGM on 4 March 2023. We will also have the SANNA AGM on 4 March after the new committees have been elected and we convene the new SANNA Manco for the next 2 year term. SANNA and GNA is working on establishing a new Provincial

Naturist Association in North West. We believe that there are enough potential members and we are certain that there are enough experienced members who are prepared to stand as members of the management committee. All of us on the SANNA Committee and GNA are looking forward to assisting whenever we can and offering our help when it is needed. If you are in North West Province, give us a shout out on our cell numbers or on emails. Our contact details are further down in this Newsletter.

I would like to thank the various Provincial Management Committees for their hard work in the past 2 years and dedication to NATURISM. I am looking forward to be involved with the new Manco's and to

take Naturism in South Africa to the next level. I would also like to thank the members of the SANNA Management Committee who, apart from their Provincial Association work, have worked hard to serve the National Association. Thank you! This year, 2023, we hope to see more new members than ever due to the many marketing initiatives which are attracting "first-timers".

The International Naturist
Federation (INF) is celebrating
their 70th birthday in
September and having huge
festivities in Montalivet resort in
France.We in South Africa and
the rest of the world will also
have local celebrations as not all
can travel to France.
Greetings to all and enjoy this
fantastic SANNA Newsletter.





GNA Chairlady's Letter Naked since 2013

www.gna.org.za

Mila Boshoff

GNA Chairlady

2023. February. Wow time really flies when you are having fun. Who knew that 12 months would go so quickly, in hindsight we had a fabulous year. But I want to look forward to the next 12 months and hope that we can make it an even better year for naturism in Gauteng and the rest of South Africa.

Gauteng Naturist Association celebrates it's 10th Birthday this year and though some may think that is not very long, I think it has been a monumental achievement taking the

opstacies we've faced. You all know that naturism was not something widely known and accepted, but now we have an organisation that is a brand that can be recognised, people can enquire and join without fear of being judged and the more we are the bigger the voice for naturism in SA.

That being said we always need volunteers to help, so please, if you can make a difference please let us know.

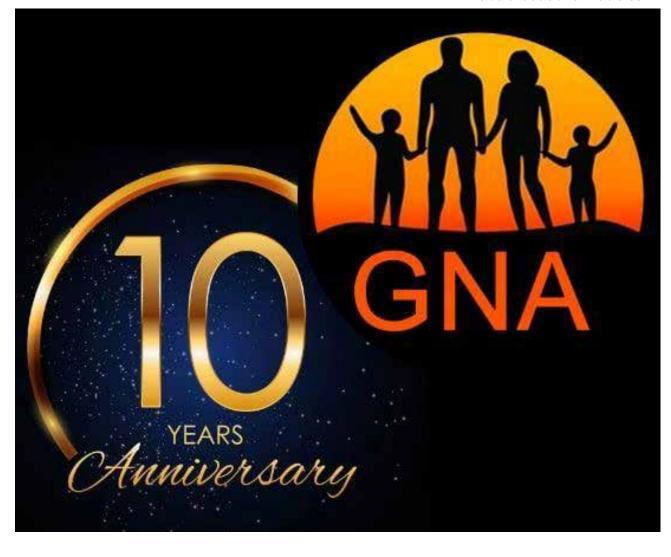
We are hoping to see many of our members at the AGM, this year we decided to host it at SunEden again as the attendance is far better at a

resort. I am sure that we will see many of our members there to support GNA and help it grow even more. It is not up to just a few individuals but indeed we need as many people to interact as possible.

Please have a look at our website if you have any questions with regards to naturism, events, memberships etc, there is always someone willing to assist! We always urge our members and visitors to join us at the organised events, there is truth in the saying: the more the merrier!

www.gna.org.za

Have a beautiful nude summer.



KZNNA

Kwa-Zulu Natal Naturist Association

遂 Nev and Mary Ann, our first year with KZNNA

Well, what an interesting year! Our first event was at 'The Hatchery', where we camped! We were not really sure where to pitch our tent and first set it up way off in the bush hahahal! After walking to the pools, we were asked where did we come from? Thankfully all the friendly girls and guys enlightened us and we moved closer! What a great weekend! We were welcomed with open arms and both of us felt very comfortable. Highlights of our weekend was the naked games, canoeing across the river and skinny dipping in the sea! Mary Ann loved the naked yoga (my balance is way to far off for that -hahaha) so I went birdwatching, hoping to see the Fish Eagle in action. What a lovely venue Hatchery is, and with lovely company, we loved it! When the next Hatchery weekend came up, we booked and paid very quickly! Again, another fantastic weekend, meeting more new people too! We won't talk about me capsizing my canoe half way across while Mary Ann scooted over to the other side like a pro! Our favorite time of the weekend was sitting around the bonfire playing music and dancing away. Then came Drakensberg! We arrived in sunshine and literally within 2 hours, experienced 4 seasons in 1 hour! Rain, hail. gusting wind, thunder and lightning and that winter chill! Straight after back to hot sunshine! The lightning blew out the electricity and well, let's just leave it at that. The fantastic KZNNA Group spirits were not dampened and it was still an amazing weekend! Yes, we met a lot of new people again, including new friends that came down from Gauteng side to join

us for the weekend.
Meeting Nick and Linz, Naked
Wanderings, was really fun!
Very interesting to hear of their
travels around the world as
Naturists and the places they
have been to. Sounds like like
Naturists in Europe are really
spoilt for places to go. We now
follow their travels on YouTube,
do yourself a favor and look
them up. Like and subscribe to
their channel. Love their humor
and down to earth attitudes on
life.

Our last event was the Braai Day at Peter and Sheryl in Peter's very own 'Garden of Eden'. This was also our first 'naked braai' - hahaha! We really enjoyed the day and can't wait for the next one!

So here we are, in the New Year.



Looking forward to more get together and weekends away, hopefully Mother Nature will be kinder to us this year with lovely weather for us to be doing what we love and enjoy... being one with nature and enjoying that with amazing like minded folks! Thanks to everyone we met, we looking to seeing you all again very soon!

Much love, Nev and Mary Ann!







Why Munich went ahead and set up 6 official 'Urban naked zones'

ByFeargus O'Sullivan

The city has clarified its rules on nude sunbathing.

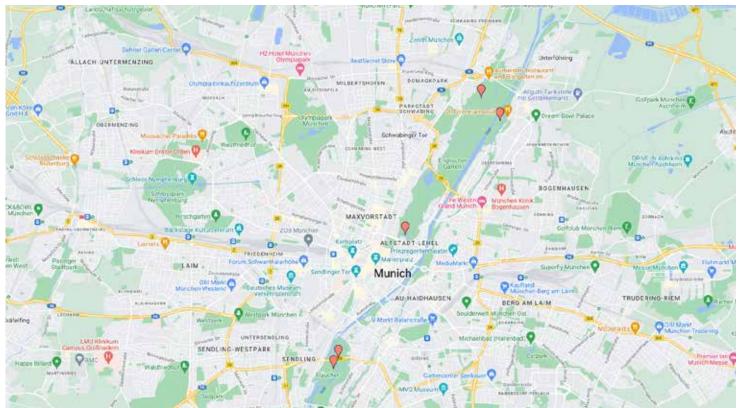
Is it OK to walk around naked in the middle of a major city? The idea of seriously debating this question might seem bizarre, but that's just what the city of Munich has been doing for much of this year. Statewide laws controlling nude sunbathing in Bavaria expired last autumn, and Germany's third largest city has had to decide for itself whether or not to allow sun-seekers to strip off in public.

The answer they came up with is a qualified yes. People in Munich are now officially welcome to go naked provided they restrict themselves to six designated areas across the city. While these areas' locations in parkland gives them a degree of seclusion, none of them are fenced off or hidden away. One spot is barely ten minutes from Munich's main square, located along a stream to which tourists flock.

In officially allowing nude sunbathing in these six places, Munich is in many ways only acknowledging a practice that has gone on for years. It's long been common to see people hanging out in the buff in the city's beautiful Englischer Garten and in spots along the meandering, island-filled Isar River. Indeed, the practice is

common across Germany, where the first naturist beach was set up back in 1920. In the former East Germany, the activity is more popular still, possibly because the longtime absence of strong religious influence there made people less anxious about it.

Plenty of Germans are tanning obsessives, but it's all about far more than avoiding tan lines. Public saunas, a standard part of many people's weekly routine in the country, are generally naked-only and mixed sex (though single sex days happen once or twice a week). Indeed, you can actually be asked to take your bathing suit off if you turn up with one. This is — I



think – in case the sweat it collects ends up on the sauna's wooden benches, or to assure you don't make other people feel uncomfortable in their nakedness.

Given that so many Western countries have taboos around public nudity, how does Germany manage this insouciance? It would be going too far to claim that Germans accept no link between sexuality and the naked body – German pornography is not noticeably full of people in floor length gowns and chunky turtlenecks.

What Germany does have, nonetheless, is a strong cultural tradition that seeks to escape artifice and the pressures of city life to return to something supposedly more natural. Seen in this light, stripping off in public is the voluntary removal of a heavy mask, a return to unvarnished honesty rather than some titter-worthy peeka-boo. Places where this is allowed to happen are spaces of truce, where there is a generally observed agreement that people will spare each other physical scrutiny and appraisal.

Thus even a place with a fairly buttoned-up reputation like Munich sees allowing naked sunbathing as a public good. It's a reminder that, even in the midst of a big city, nature and peace are still there to be enjoyed in what many like to consider, accurately or not. a natural state. As my time working in Munich as a tour guide taught me, however, there's always an occasional tourist who chooses to butt into this municipally approved summer idyll with a roving zoom lens.



WhatsApp Naturism

Nick & Lins - Naked wanderings

January 18, 2023

The other day we were invited by a friend to visit their naturist camp. Not the kind of campsite that we're used to in Europe, that's open throughout the season and where people come and go. It was more like a pop-up camp. A group of naturists rented out a whole, usually textile, campsite just north of Cape Town and turned it naturist throughout the weekend.

This is not uncommon in South Africa, last month we been to a "takeover" of a hotel in the Drakensberg mountains and just last week we talked to the owners of a textile guesthouse who told us that they would happily have naturists over if they rented out the whole place. As they only had 5 rooms, just a small group of naturists could do the trick. For some groups,

a place like that would actually be too small. Like the group of naked campers who were with at least 30-40 people when we showed up.

Organising a pop-up naturist event

It was a lovely sunny afternoon when we arrived at the camp and most people were in or around the swimming pool. Our friend greeted us and quickly introduced us to everyone in our near surroundings. We sat down, opened a beer, took a piece of watermelon, and started talking. This was already the third camp they were organising and we were interested in learning from their experiences.

You see, we strongly believe that there's a high demand for large and small naturist events, but organising those always seems like such a hassle to us. You have to find locations, caterers, and activities. You have to make subscription forms, do promo, and maybe build a website. The prices for entry, camping pitches, food, and drinks need to be calculated. When we just start thinking about all those things, our encouragement drops to a below-zero level. But it doesn't have to be like that.

In this occasion, the cost to rent the campsite was just divided by the number of guests. Everyone pays their share. The guests also bring their own food and drinks. And their own skills, one of the guests happened to be a DJ, another one knew a thing or two about massage techniques, and thus the activities just appeared out of nowhere.

The WhatsApp naturist network Just like in many other countries, South African naturists struggle with the fact that naturist places are quite few given the size of the country and are often far between. It's not unlikely that the nearest nude beach or naturist resort is a day's drive away. Naturists can visit those places once or twice a year for a vacation, but for those who like to frequently enjoy social nudity it's quite impossible, or too expensive, or too exhausting.

What happens is that some naturists in the same area start organising their own small events. Maybe a pool party at someone's home, or a braai (barbecue), or a game afternoon. A WhatsApp group is created to share the details about the event and the ball starts rolling. When the event is finished, the group remains active because it's the perfect way to start talking about the next gathering. Maybe someone



brought a friend who's being added to the group along the way. Someone else met some cool local naturists during a recent vacation and adds them to the group.

This concept started pretty much simultaneously throughout the whole country, members from different groups get to know each other at a resort and add one another to their WhatsApp groups. Before you know it, a weekend camp can be organised for several tens of people. The only promo happens through the WhatsApp groups and since these groups have grown organically with friends of friends of friends, these events are only on a needto-know basis. Which is an excellent way to filter out people with the wrong intentions.

The new naturist club We've seen similar WhatsApp networks before in Latin America, which even go crossborder. If you're from Peru and want to meet some naturists during a vacation in Colombia, you just drop your travel plans in the general Latin America group. Then someone local can invite you to the group of Medellin, Cartagena, Bogotá, or wherever you want to go in Colombia, and you start receiving updates about all that will be happening. When we think about it, this whole concept is not that different from how naturist clubs came into existence back in the day in Europe. A group of local naturists put some money together to buy or rent a place to have their weekly meetups. Having their own place was a necessity because it would have been totally impossible to find new places every week and communicate about them with all the members. The internet has changed this. Thanks to Google, it's easy to find venues

and book them, and thanks to online communication tools (like WhatsApp, Telegram, etc), you can let everyone know within the blink of an eye.

We wondered if these groups can eventually replace actual clubs, associations, and maybe even federations. No more membership cards, no more monthly newsletters, and no more agendas on websites that never get totally up to date. Just a number of WhatsApp groups on your phone that give you all the info you need. It seems like the perfect system, but it has a huge flaw.

What with the newbie? This whole concept is based on an existing network of naturists. Friends of friends of friends. The reason why we've been invited to several really fun naturist events in South Africa during the last months is purely that we are very well connected in the naturist world. If the average Joe and Jane would travel to South Africa (or even live in the country), they would probably never know about the existence of these groups.

Naturist associations and federations play a very important role in this. The other day, we were at Sandy Bay, the local nude beach of Cape Town, with the Western Cape Naturist Association. They had a box of lip balm sticks with the association's logo and handed those out to other people on the beach. For many, this was the first time they heard about the association. If they decide to become members, they will become part of the network. They will meet new people, who can introduce them to other people. They will be added to WhatsApp groups and be able to join events.

The future of organised naturism In the early days of Naked Wanderings, we were among the strongest critics of naturist organisations. We thought that they were useless. We didn't care for membership cards, we just arrived at naturist resorts, paid, and picked our campsite pitch. If a certain resort would refuse us for not being a member of a federation (which never happened), we would just have gone to the next resort. This is the European way, but only by travelling to other places around the world, we started realising the importance of organised naturism as a way to bring people into the network.

We've seen success stories and stories of failure when it comes to naturist organisations. They are often blamed for apparently doing nothing, but sometimes it feels to us like they are trying to do too much. If you rely on just a handful of volunteers, you can't organise events, and create promo campaigns, and control memberships, and talk to the media, and...and...and... The work becomes too much, the expectations become too high, and in the end, everyone is disappointed.

If you've followed this blog for a while, you probably know that we like to guess what the future will bring. We believe in a naturist ecosystem where everyone has a specific task. There are the resorts that provide fun and safe places, there are groups that organise local events, other groups that take care of the nude beaches, bloggers and vloggers to promote naturism, and federations and associations that create the gateway into this whole network.



Our weekend at Kiepersolkloof with the Naked Wanderings 20th to 23rd January, 2023

by Lofty

Nick and Lins, the world-famous Naked Wanderings couple, spent 3 months travelling around South Africa starting at SunEden and ending at Kiepersolkloof. From Gauteng, they went to Mpumalanga, the Free State, KwaZulu Natal, Eastern Cape, Western Cape and finally to the North West.

Amanda and I were excited to see them again when we waited at the airport and their flight from Cape Town was early so



within minutes, we were on our way to Kiepersolkloof. We stopped at a bottle store and a supermarket on our way and by 15:45 on the Friday afternoon we arrived at the gate of Kiepersolkloof where the gate was opened by a smiling, nude, Magda, who is the Manager. We were also happy to see our very good friend, Derek le Roux, who was previously the Manager and who now looks after 2 lovely houses which are rented out, being the Log Cabin and the G&G House. We have often booked those houses for our tourists and for ourselves. After signing the guestbook at the gate, we dropped off Nick and Lins at the Manor House, where they were staying, and we unpacked at the beautiful Log Cabin, where we were staying. Derek showed us how the

Jacuzzi heating system worked and then we were alone, and we enjoyed every minute in that beautiful cabin surrounded by trees and bushes. The only sound was the chirping of birds. The Marketing Director of Kiepersolkloof is Nico and the Maintenance Director is Wynand and together with the Manager, Magda, they had planned an amazing weekend to impress Nick and Lins, the world famous, Naked Wanderings couple. The programme was sent to us 2 weeks before we had arrived, and it looked great!

At 18:00 on that Friday, we gathered at Wynand's house for a Welcome Function which included delicious snacks. There were about 12 nude people there when we arrived, and they all wanted to meet Nick and Lins. Wynand and Zelda have a lovely home and if you know Wynand, then you will know that he knows how to host a party and his entertainment area is built accordingly. Nick and Lins were

treated with Springbokkies and Melktert shooters. We were reminded that we had to get up early on Saturday to go on a Naked Hike lead by another Derek -Derek Wane who is also a director of Kiepersolkloof. There were 8 of us who managed to get out of bed early enough to start the hike at 07:00 on the Saturday. Derek is super fit because he hikes almost every day, but he was patient and he understood that some of us were puffing and panting. We hiked down

to the Bush Camp in the valley, where there is no electricity but there is a loo with a view in the bush and it is a modern flush toilet. There is also an outdoor shower with water which is heated by the sun using black plastic pipes. There is a wash up area as well.

The shaded camping areas are lovely and almost hidden under the trees.

There is also a roofed area with logs for chairs.

The hike back was beautiful and clearly marked and that is when we started really puffing and panting. I might be exaggerating; we were quite fit for our age and all of us enjoyed the naked hike. We did not try the other 2 hiking trails, but we plan to do so next time.

We returned to the communal area in time for a well organised breakfast which was arranged next to the swimming pool – attended by about 20 people. Wow the Kiepersolkloof team were really on the ball. I need

to mention Wynand, Zelda, Jan, Magda, Nico, Rika, Herman and Irene. They know how to organise.

On the Saturday night there was a Bring and Braai. Kiepersolkloof supplied the fires, pap and sauce. "The Team" once again arranged a wonderful evening with lots of fun and laughter. On the Sunday Morning, there was a Bring and Cook breakfast. The programme mentioned that it would be "on the mountain" so we guessed that it must be on the highest part of the huge Kiepersolkloof farm, but we were wrong. We all met at the main gate. Some were completely naked, some were partly naked and some were dressed. We drove in convoy to a hotel which is only 4kms from Kiepersolkloof. Opposite the hotel, is a long, rocky road up the hill going to a thatched lapa (with an amazing view) which is part of the hotel property but completely private. Needless to





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We would like to thank Kiepersolkloof and "The Team" for all that you did to make all of us feel so welcome. I can honestly say that Amanda and I had a real rest. Working at a resort, we seldom have a rest, but our weekend at Kiepersolkloof, was exactly the rest which we needed. Both Nick and Lins really enjoyed their weekend at Kiepersolkloof and they were very impressed with the hospitality. Thank you so much Kiepersolkloof and thank you also to the GNA members and guests who joined us for the weekend.



Notes from Coen's desk

The year 2022 was quite exciting. We had our AGM on the 26th of February 2022 at the Hatchery, close to Amatikulu. Each and every one of us received a handwritten personal welcome note from the Hatchery Team. Well done to them!

We had some fun with guys flying over with "Microlights". We think when they realized we were naked they returned with in minutes but, unfortunately for them we went in doors for our Annual general meeting. We chuckled at the voyeurs while having the meeting. Guess the guys who first saw us, could not inform the crowd quick enough? You could hear the light aeroplanes circling while we had the meeting.

Thanks to Wayne J, our Chairman, for our Sunday morning Prayers! Lots of hard work to do in English and Afrikaans (Well done Mr. Wayne J).

A big thank you to everyone who committed themselves to the food preparation. I know that it is not easy to please everybody's taste buds. We had fun and lots of fresh air. Thanks to Christo and his team arranging the braai. The Hatchery weekend and AGM meeting were so successful that the members decided to have a follow up weekend at "the Hatchery", which was arranged for 17th and 18 September 2022. We planned a weekend in the Berg (Drakensberg Mountain

Retreat) which we attended with great expectations. Thanks to Graham Mackenzie who instigated and arranged the weekend. Unfortunately, we had a huge storm and the lights went out for the whole weekend. Even though the venue was nice there were only two places to sleep. The Hotel and let's call it "Sleeping Facilities with Kitchen's and Entertainment areas" away from the Hotel. The management was, in my opinion, not well prepared for a big group of people. Although it is a great venue, they did not have backup light support and we ended up manufacturing our own lights. With no hot water, it made me reminisce about the army days. We enjoyed the food, laughter and friendships, with

everyone having fun. The great braai on Saturday afternoon was all thanks to our "own Braai Master", Wayne du Toit. The highlight of the weekend came when we met with Lins and Nick from "Naked Wanderings". What a pleasant couple. It was interesting to learn from them how they survive and generate funds to do all the travelling. Well done Nick and and Lins! Friday evening we had a smart dress evening. The Hotel manager warned us that the generator could only run for a limited time. This caused some disappointment

the members part to make a success of the evening was laid to waste. For what it's worth, the part that we could enjoy was great and a reprise might be in

To end of 2022, we had a braai at Peter Wunderlin's home, with Sheryl Flu'gel as the hostess on the 4th of December 2022. Lins and Nick joined us again, at the start of their KZN exploration, continiung down the Wild Coast and on to Cape Town. You can "Google", "Naked Wanderings", and subscribe to follow them on their journeys around the world. Again Peter and Sheryl if we cannot get away, we know that with prior arrangement your enclosed property is available for some relaxed naturism enjoyment.



Natural Riders

The beginning of a naked club with a biking problem

20th of February 2022 six people with a passion for naturism and biking came together and decided why not combine the two things we love to do and start a biking club. With our first birthday coming up we can proudly say our club made it to

one year. The first year of our existence we grew closer as a naturist and biker family and had tons of fun. For more information on how we started please read Throttle out online magazine November 2022 edition written by President OZ

As naturist we try our utter best to educate others on our lifestyle and with a few pages in a magazine we can accomplish.

Nudity is not allowed at most of our fellow biker's events, for this reason we try to stay true to our roots and attend one naturist event a month and support our biker families with our presence at jolls, rallies and breakfast runs fully clothed.



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we started please read Throttle out online magazine November 2022 edition written by President OZ.





The Natural Riders MCC is a fun-filled, naturist and family motorcycle club formed by frieds and family who love to ride together and be naturists complying with ALL naturist lifestyle rules written or unwritten.

Contact for more info:

KwaZulu-Natal & Free State President Dale Terry 076 046 6533

Gauteng

Vice President Johan Theron 082 884 9402

Cape Province

Rover Chris Elliot 082 864

2427

Mpumalanga Limpopo Sergeant @ Arms Gerhard Joubert 067 237 2476



VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS OF THE INF-FNI

VISION STATEMENT

A world where everyone can live in freedom, with or without clothing, with respect for each other and for the environment.

A world where the human right to be naked is protected and nudity, including social nudity, is accepted.

A world where naturism is practised in accordance the INF definition of naturism.

MISSION STATEMENT

Together with national federations, we promote naturism and its values internationally, working towards a world where naturism may be practised everywhere.

STRATEGY

The INF-FNI aims to achieve its mission by:

- strengthening and supporting the work of the national naturist federations through cooperation (exchange of knowhow, best practices,)
 consultation (finance, members, communication, data, organisation, ...)
 events (sport, social, festivals, culture and arts, fairs, ...)
 networking (congress, friendship, ...)
- 2. communicating the values of naturism by

promoting naturism as a philosophy and ideology promoting naturism as a natural and more sustainable way of life campaigning and lobbying towards establishment of a human right to be naked promoting self-confidence and body-acceptance as part of naturism working with authorities (governments, police, international bodies, environmental organisations, ...)

utilising

professional public relations (press releases and responses to publications) web and social media work

3. building and maintaining relationships with other bodies and being an international partner in the support of naturism

Adopted in Luxembourg
October 2022







Nudist or naturist?

Nick Mayhew-Smith

https://clothesfreelife.com/

An age-old question. I argue that the naked sages in ancient times can help us unpick the nudist/naturist conundrum.

Let me tell you about the time Alexander the Great met some nudists. Way back in the 4th century B.C. the Macedonian king was travelling on the eastern fringes of his empire when he captured a group of sages, who were acting as advisers to one of his enemies. One detail the historical record is quick to point out: these people had chosen to live permanently naked.

Alexander and the naked philosophers

Avoiding all clothing as a matter

of principle, the captured sages were described as 'Gymnosophists' by the ancient Greeks, a word that translates as 'naked philosophers'. They believed that clothes were a distraction from clear thinking, and their stripped down lifestyle also included strict vegetarianism, and earnest contemplation about moral behaviour.

In this famous encounter
Alexander the Great posed
the philosophers a series of 10
questions, and was so satisfied
by their wisdom he decided to
let them go free. The questions
were along the lines of 'how
can a man become a god?', to
which the reply came: 'by doing
something no man can do.' Short
and pithy, as one might expect

from a group of people so earnest about living the simple life. One question was never asked of these sages. I am sure they would have been admirably suited to answer it: 'what is the difference between a nudist and a naturist'.

It is a question that might prompt some modernday naturists to run for the hills in avoidance, claiming that it is both pointless and unanswerable. But I think it is of vital importance. To my mind our inability to answer such a basic question does a great disservice to our way of life. It also lies behind a worrying inability to explain ourselves to the general public.

More to the point, it fails to explain quite what we should



Alexander and the naked philosophers

call those Gymnosophists of antiquity. Can they be called nudists? Yes, quite clearly. These were men and possibly women, who went out of their way to spend time in the nude. It doesn't really need much more of a complicated definition than that. Nudists are people who avoid clothes in situations where most other people choose to wear them. Clearly even Alexander and his Greek friends thought this nudity was remarkable enough to mention, despite coming from a culture where such activities as athletics and communal bathing were commonly practiced naked.[wpdiscuzfeedback id="a4ycierr99 question="Please leave a feedback on this" opened="0] The Greeks could easily have called them 'vegetarian philosophers', but it was their nudity that stood out as most noteworthy.[/wpdiscuzfeedback]

Living naked full-time is as pure an expression of nudism as you are likely to find. For the Gymnosophists, it was backed up by a fully formed philosophical rationale about avoiding all worldly comforts and distractions. They weren't simply naked without any explanation, but as part of a

carefully developed outlook on life.

In order to demonstrate that these naked thinkers were not a one-off aberration, I would like to briefly go through a description of some other unclad practices in times gone by, people whose deliberate practice of nudity stands out just as starkly. There are nudists wherever you look in human history!

I have written extensively in academic research about another naked figure from Classical times, a Christian hermit who lived without clothes on the flanks of Mount Sinai for 50 years. Much admired by the early church for his single-minded dedication to solitude, this nameless monk lived in the 4th century. He is documented by the Christian writer Sulpicius Severus, from Gaul, who wrote approvingly of this naked devotee around the year 400.

This hermit's nudism arose from a very different place to that of the Gymnosophists. He explained that his reason for stripping off was that he wanted to be alone. Casting off all trappings of civilisation, including clothing, was his way of making real his desire to reject society in its entirety. His nudism

was a deliberate way of excusing himself from human company, and it rests on the very clear notion that nudity is essentially antisocial. So striking was his witness I named my 2019 book The Naked Hermit in his honour, and find it interesting how far Christians today might accept this holy man's lonely witness as an expression of

high-minded devotion.

There is of course no reason why such solitary nudity could not be practised by women too, since the nakedness goes hand in hand with complete isolation from society. So in like manner St. Mary of Egypt is said have gone naked in the desert for decades, a famous figure in the early church and much revered in some denominations even today. Mary and the hermit of Mt Sinai, along with a few other documented examples from the eastern deserts, prove beyond doubt that hermit nudism was a movement rather than a one-off aberration. A small one, but a distinctive and authentic one.



Moving forwards a millennium or so through history, we can find a third use of deliberate nudity in a spiritual context, this time taking place in Britain. The earliest Quakers and their close cousins the Ranters were known for taking off their clothes on occasion and running down the street. Their reasons for doing so were different again, a way of demonstrating their rejection of rigid social hierarchies and rules that restricted freedom to worship.

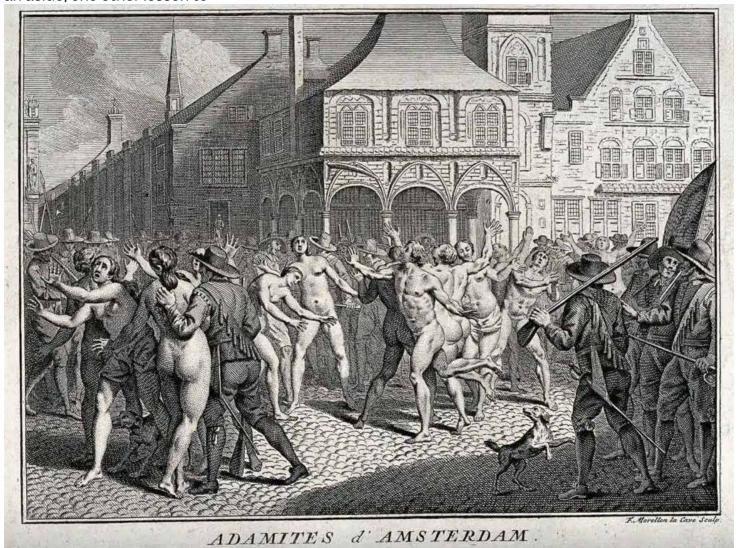
One image from the 17th century shows a group of such Quakers standing naked in front of a bemused onlooker, with the caption 'Above ordinances', a sarcastic way of saying these were people who thought they were 'above the law'. As an aside, one other lesson to

take from this is that naturism is not the first form of nudism to be mocked for deliberate nudity. Another image shows some naked Neo-Adamites protesting in Amsterdam, men and women being arrested for their dedication to (among other beliefs) the nudist cause, an image of prejudice that we naturists do well to remember. Some indeed were executed as heretics.



These examples of rebellious nudism are essentially a rejection of society's norms, a rejection of the social contract that binds us to the authority of the state. Not for nothing were dissenting groups such as the Quakers known by the term 'non-conformist'. This is nudity as a form of protest and has obvious parallels to some of the nudity we see today, such as the Naked Bike Rides. You might also have read about the campaigning academic Dr Victoria Bateman, an economist from Cambridge who has used nudity to great effect in order to express dissatisfaction with aspects of contemporary politics.

There are many other forms of deliberate and sustained nudity



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THE ARREST OF ADAMITES IN A PUBLIC SQUARE IN AMSTERDAM. ETCH CREDIT: WELLCOME LIBRARY, LONDON. WELLCOME IMAGES IM****@WE******.UK HTTP://WELLCOMEIMAGES.ORG. THE ARREST OF ADAMITES IN A PUBLIC SQUARE IN AMSTERDAM. ETCHING BY F. MORELLON LA CAVE. AFTER: FRANCOIS MORELLON DE LA CAVEPUBLISHED: –

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being used in a wide range of contexts, but I will finish with one modern example. This is nakedness used in outdoor ritual, as a way of communing with the natural world. Modern Neo-Pagan ceremonies such as Wiccan gatherings often incorporate some form of magical nudity, forming a circle in which participants go 'skyclad'. The reasons to explain this are many and varied, and some claim the custom was inspired

by an Indian philosophy related to those Gymnosophists we met at the start of this article. Many Wiccan practitioners would also add that they are not so much naked, but rather they are wearing the environment. Many of the early adherents of the Neo-Pagan revival in the 20th century were also naturists, as it happens, but that is by no means essential among the Pagan community today. I met a Wicca practitioner

recently at an academic conference on New Age spirituality who described nudity as a matter of strict ritual necessity, and argued that the movement should both minimise it and downplay it as far as possible.

All of the above are ways people have chosen to go naked, and there is only word I can possibly think of that would encapsulate all of these practices: nudism.

By consciously deciding to go naked where others would expect to be dressed, they are deliberately practising or embracing nudity. There are many reasons that drive them to do this, as we have seen in this short history of a few nudist cults and movements. Some were moved to bare all for profoundly philosophical reasons. Some were deeply spiritual, some were anarchistic, and some gently communing with nature. It is nice to think that the experience of being naked can mean so much to so many people, and has created such a rich culture of nudism over so many millennia of human history. As modern-day naturists this is also our heritage, and we would do well to embrace all of it. We should celebrate all the millions of men and women who have put their bodies on the line to keep the nudist flame burning from as far back as the historical record stretches. Indeed go all the way back to the starting point for three of the world's great religions, and you end up with another pair of nudists in the form of Adam and Eve. One thing I would like to stress is that nudism is an integral part of the human story. Stretching back to some of the earliest recorded periods in history and possibly in some of the earliest artworks too you will find people who have deliberately chosen

to go for extended periods of time without clothes, outdoors and/or in public, driven by any one of a number of good, ethical, passionate and coherent reasons for doing so.

I am sure that a good number of these nudists actually enjoyed being naked in that primal and visceral way that we all feel, when kicking off our clothes and feeling the breeze all over, sliding naked into the water, or feeling the sun embrace every inch of our liberated skin.

Nudism is an enduring part of human culture. It always has been and it always will be. I think this is something we would do well to remember when we try to explain what we are to a skeptical society. I could give many more examples of nudists through the ages to supplement my short survey above, but we can take pride in the fact that nudism is an essential and long-standing part of the human story, and has found something positive to say about nakedness in so many contexts and cultures. The naturist movement is a modern and highly successful chapter in this long compendium of nudist ideals and practices.

Here's the crux of the issue, why not call all of these earlier people 'naturists' too? Well, the answer becomes pretty obvious when looking at the very mixed reasons that have been given for nude living over the many different cycles of history. Take the naked hermit, living in solitude on the flanks of Mount Sinai. Here was a man



who considered nudity to be the very embodiment of rejecting society. His form of nudism presupposes that the naked body is anti-social, an idea which is entirely alien to modern-day naturism. If nudity is seen as a way of keeping other humans away, then it stems from a fundamentally different place to naturist communities. Clearly the naked hermit who lived without clothes on Mount Sinai was a nudist, self-evidently so. But he would surely never have agreed to live naked in the company of other men, let alone women. This because his nudity was an expression of the desire to be alone. Naturists on the other hand believe in a form of nudism that is essentially communal, one that is also absolutely open to men and women to socialise equally together in the nude. This idea that nudity is

essentially anti-social still lingers today, but it is not actually a part of what we naturists believe or practise. It is an idea encapsulated by the textile use of the disparaging term 'nudist colony'. This is not a phrase we use to describe ourselves, because it presupposes that nudity needs to be segregated from mainstream society. It is a mischaracterisation of us at the most basic level, and as far as I am aware no naturist club. resort or camp has ever selfidentified as a 'nudist colony'. A nudist such as the naked hermit speaks of a different form of nudity to naturism. We naturists use our shared nudity as a way to mingle socially in an equal and accepting way. This makes naturism a distinctive form of nudism, the latest iteration in that age-old nudist culture.

I would like to stress that the variety of nudism is huge, and there are some fundamental differences between its various forms, beliefs and practices. On the one hand in Late Antique times those nudist hermits chose to stay entirely out of the public eye, on the other hand the non-conformists of the Early Modern period would run through busy town streets without any clothes on shouting. Both entirely valid forms of nudism, but at odds with each other on the fundamental practice and expression of nudity.

Turning to the naked sages that Alexander met, they regarded themselves as a class apart, reserved for the elite only who met their strict intellectual, physical and dietary requirements. Naturism today doesn't have such strict entry criteria. It has many aspects that the Gymnosophists would have rejected. Nudity wasn't remotely a leisure activity for them, but rather an austere discipline which was inseparable from other strict rules These Gymnosophists, naked hermits, Ranters and skyclad devotees certainly have one very obvious thing in common with us modern-day naturists, and that is the active choice to be naked. But there are stark

differences once we start to look beyond the bare skin and ask how that nudity was practised, and what it meant

and what it meant. A modern-day naturist might well agree with and participate in some of the other expressions of nudism outlined above, but certainly not all of them because they are contradictory, mutually exclusive. I have never heard any naturist argue that nudity must only be practised in absolute isolation, or confined only to a brief moonlit ritual. I think we would do well to remember that nudism has a long and noble history, and has earned its place in human culture as an essential corrective to the mainstream insistence on covering up the body whenever possible. Naturism is clearly a subset of the very large and long-standing culture of nudism, which has found expression in so many ways, places and times across a vast span of human history. Naturism emerged around the start of the 20th century and has proved to consist of a number of stable principles and practices which mark it out as a distinctive and clearly recognisable form of nudism. Naturism has and will no doubt continue to evolve over the coming years, adding on new ideas and expressions. Maybe one day a new movement of nudism will come along that offers something different again to naturism. It may have practices that contradict what we consider to be fundamental to the naturist way of life. What that might be we can only speculate. So far naturism has only advanced without losing sight of its fundamental principles of communal, mixedsex and non-sexual nudity. I enjoy my naturism endlessly, and I take huge pride and satisfaction in fitting it into this bigger vista of what the naked body has managed to represent over the passing millennia, connecting it to so many rich and varied expressions of that wonderful nudist impulse. When we compare our modern naturism to our nudist cousins of old we can see that there is so much more to nudity than simply getting undressed.



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February 2023 Federations Focus



International Naturist Federation Newsletter

New Working group looking at membership and financing of INF-FNI

A new working group, set up to look at the membership and financing of the INF-FNI, will have its first meeting this month (January 2023).

Christo Bothma, our Africa-Asia-Pacific assessor based in South Africa, is chairing the group. It has the following terms of reference:

"The working group will consider the membership system, including how to bring new federations within the INF-FNI's embrace. This might include new forms of membership and greater use of observer status. It should also look at the financing of the organisation: whether selling stamps remains the best way and, if not, what other systems might be preferred."

At the moment, the rules allow only national Federations to be members of the INF-FNI, and only one such federation from each country may be recognised. Non-national groupings, and organisations representing several federations, are not eligible. The rules concerning observers were relaxed after the World Congress in 2021, so observers now have the opportunity to speak, but not vote, at Congresses.

Other groups, including commercial entities such as resorts, can become extraordinary members but they need the permission of their national federation. Individuals can also become extraordinary members if they live in a country where there is no member federation.

The organisation is financed through the sale of INF-FNI stamps. Federations have to buy a number of stamps equivalent to the number of members they have at the end of every year, and each individual member should carry a stamp on their national membership card.

The working group will consider whether this system needs to be modernized and what alternatives there might be.

Christo has already asked the member federations for their ideas and suggestions and will welcome input. The working group was created following discussions at the World Congress in Luxembourg in October 2022. It is expected to report in time for the next Congress planned for the autumn of 2024.

Any changes will require the agreement of the member federations.

Events

10.03. - 12.03.2023 EuNat Meeting



Bonn, Germany

Informationens about the event at our webseite:

https://inf-fni.org/de/eunat-konferenz-2023/

Focus April

Deadline to remit articles: 20th March 2023

Release of Focus latest: 05th April 2023

Hyperrealism at the Maillol Museum in Paris



The Paris Naturist Association (ANP), already wellknown as the driving force behind the creation of the naturist park of Paris in 2017 and the naturist museum visits of the Palais de Tokyo in 2018 and the Cinémathèque in 2020, collaborated with Tempora (cultural event company) on three naturist evenings at the Maillol Museum in Paris, for the exhibition "Hyperrealism. This is not a body." More than 700 people attended these sessions in November 2022, which began with a press visit, joined by members of the national board of the French Federation of Naturism, and a certain number of journalists who decided to play the game by putting themselves in the real skin of a naturist. Following this success, the museum invited the ANP back for three extra sessions on January 19th, with over 260 visitors.

Like at previous events of this kind in Paris, there was perfect gender parity, with a huge number of young people under the age of 30. Moreover, for nearly half of the participants, it was their first naturist experience. It's very chic, very Parisian, to be able to say that one's initiation into the naturist world was at a museum visit!

The reaction of the guests was interesting. Arriving for their slot, very few dared to look at the president and vice-president of the ANP, who were naked as they greeted visitors and directed them to the changing rooms. On their return, themselves naked, the visitors had already had time to get used to it a little and at the end of their visit many said they were disappointed to have to get dressed and rejoin the "real" world.

The feedback of the exhibition was quite unanimous, with a large number of visitors saying how much they

appreciated the "normal" pieces, those showing the human body with all its natural attributes, and the look of age and experience visible on certain faces.

From the day after the first evening, many of these new naturists contacted the ANP to thank them for the organisation and to ask for more information about our activities. The opening of the naturist park and the visit to the Palais de Tokyo allowed the ANP to increase the number of club members. They hope to relive this thanks to the success of this new event.







Naturistinfesta 2023



The Italian Naturist Federation (FENAIT) promoted and organised #Naturistinfesta, a national gathering proposed to Italian naturists at the end of summer, from September 9th to 11th 2022, at Suncave Gardens in Cerveteri (near Rome), in collaboration with UNAIT, the Lazio Region naturist association.

The 3 days were characterised by a rich and varied programme aimed at making the weekend as enjoyable as possible, with fun activities, good food and relaxation in the beautiful park and swimming pool of the accommodation site.

On the first day, despite a national train strike, naturists arrived from all over Italy, and one from France representing the ANP, the Naturist Association of Paris. Sandrine came to the meeting to cement the friendship between the ANP and UNAIT, two recently twinned associations under the INF-FNI's twinning programme, launched this year.

During the event, a group of holistic professionals were available for both individual massages and for group-oriented meditation experiences making the context very welcoming and pleasant.

It was possible to make one's skin even more cheerful and colourful during a collective body painting session which focused on creativity as well as social interaction.

Meditation, yoga and other holistic pursuits were also on offer. Participants enjoyed the contact between body and mind, and the release of energy they felt during these activities.

Other fun activities were offered for small and large groups to allow them to continue to enjoy social nudity.

During the event two photographers worked together to obtain the "best naturist shot". This idea helped make the event even more enjoyable and harmonious, creating an album of memories of the three days at Suncave Gardens.

On Saturday evening all the participants gathered by the pool for the gala dinner, where a rich buffet with musical entertainment was provided. The evening ended with thanks by the FENAIT President Lele Fornaca and a small gift for all the participants.

The event ended on Sunday at the nearby naturist beach of Sabbie Nere where UNAIT members offered lunch to all naturists on the beach. Here, hospitality, cheerfulness and joy were everywhere. We were also visited by the councillor for social services of the Municipality of Santa Marinella, who was totally in tune with the values of harmony and respect that reigned throughout the event.

#Naturistinfesta was very successful and we hope that it will become an annual event promoted by FENAIT, where Italian and international naturists can form even more social relationships and enrich their personal history, motivated by a strong and authentic passion for naturism and for its increasingly rapid growth.

Gabriella Carrera FENAIT Board Member





50th International naturist swimming gala



From November 4th to 6th 2022, the 50th Anniversary Naturist Swimming Gala took place in Belgrade, Serbia, at the swimming pool of the "25. Maj – Milan Gale Muškatirović" sports centre.

More than 90 participants from 13 different naturist organisations were present over the weekend. 60 were competitive swimmers, 12 judges and controllers, 1 lifeguard, 1 photographer, 1 journalist, and the rest were representatives of the organisers and guests. This year's gathering was also attended by representatives of EuNat and the INF-FNI.

All participants stayed at the Mona Plaza Hotel in the immediate vicinity of the swimming pool. Everyone received a gift package from the organisers to commemorate the event, the best swimmers received gold, silver and bronze medals for their placements, and the best three federations received cups for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.

The participants had fun at the gala dinner with good music, and two tours of Belgrade were organised for everyone.

We should especially mention that the guests were allowed to use the space in the hotel without clothes in the places where they mostly gathered, while at the pool everyone except the judges were naked. The gathering took place in an extraordinary atmosphere of fellowship and, according to the statements of the guests, everyone had a great time in Serbia.

With the help of partner Nenex, a transfer from the airport by luxury bus was provided for all participants. Lunch at the pool was provided in cooperation with the Just Catering company, medals and cups were taken care of by Strong K foundry, and gifts for the participants were provided in cooperation with the Tourist Organisation of Serbia and the Jovšić printing centre.



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Farewell to George Volak



At the beginning of December I received the news from Jiri Böhm that George Volak had left us forever. Of course I knew that he had health problems for some time, but when news reaches about the passing of someone who was not only a colleague but also a dear friend, you are still shocked and very sad.

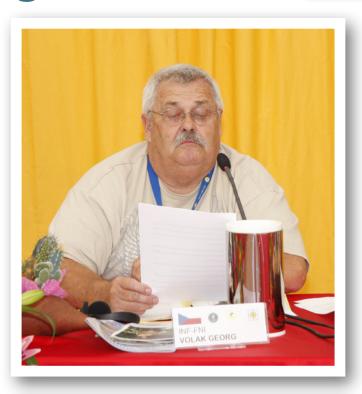
George, like me, has been active for the INF-FNI as a CC member since 1998. From 1998 to 2006, he was an assessor for the Non-European Federations. In 2006 he took over the secretariat of the INF-FNI and after President Wolfgang Weinreich resigned for health reasons in 2007, Georg also held the task of INF-FNI President until 2008. After my election as President, the excellent cooperation with George and Nancy also became a friendship, which continued when both ended their activities for the INF-FNI in 2010.

George, born in the Czech Republic, fled from the previous regime via Austria and Canada to America in his youth. George had a son and a daughter from his first marriage, and with his second wife Nancy he fulfilled a great dream in life. He built and opened a naturist camp near Nashville. The Rock Haven Lodge.

He became a member of the American Association for Nude Recreation (AANR) where he was elected president for three terms.

In 2006 he returned to his home country, and from 2015 he was president of the Czech-Moravian Naturist Association. He has made a fundamental contribution to the preservation and development of naturism in the Czech Republic during a difficult period.

George has also left his mark on the Czech Federation and the INF-FNI, for which we are all grateful and we will all keep George's memory alive.





LE BETULLE Villaggio Naturista

Near the Alps, at 25 km from the center of Turin, 20 minutes from the airport Caselle. Caravans, plots for Recreation Vehicles and tents, completely equipped bungalows, caravans with chalet. Pool, solarium, jacuzzi and sauna. Clubhouse restaurant, petanque, mini-tennis, table tennis, Volleyball. Mountain bike circuits and trails in Park Mandria

Sights: Venaria Royal Palace and Park, St. Michele Abbey, Rivoli Castle, Mole Antonelliana, Egyptian Museum, Piazza S. Cario, Basilica of Superga.

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UNI . Unione Naturisti Italiani

To the cliffs **or the mountains?** No, to the **Sonnensee**



When you think of a carefree holiday at a campsite, you might think of great areas with big beaches by the sea or have the mountains in mind. The Naturist Family Sports and Nature Camp at Sonnensee doesn't have any of that.

Nevertheless, according to guest ratings, the 650,000 square metre club site of the BffL Hannover e.V. is one of the most popular campsites in Europe. And this for the fourth time in a row! Our team feels confirmed that the idyllic site, located in the heart of the "Altwarmbüchener Moor" landscape conservation area, with its 170,000 square metre sunny lake and excellent water quality, is an inviting place to relax. The environmentally friendly farm tour and the Hannover package with the huge city forest and the many sights round off the perfect stay. Those who want to experience something different after all the peace and quiet and the many sporting opportunities can cycle or take public transport to the nearby city centre. Because of the many possibilities, many families spend their holidays at Sonnensee.

In the meantime, more than 440 reviews have been given for the NaturistenCamp on camping.info. "Excellent" is the resulting verdict for the association, which celebrated its 75th anniversary last year with its approximately 500 permanent pitches for caravans and motorhomes and its 60 guest pitches.

The leading European information and booking portal camping.info, with around 90 million page impressions per year, presents an annual award for the 100 most popular campsites in Europe and the 10 best sites from other countries. The award has become one of the most coveted awards in the camping industry and is purely an audience award - without a jury or discretionary decisions.

The basis for this year's award, presented for the 12th time by camping.info, is more than 230,000 evaluations from over 150,000 campers. There were more than 23,000 sites from 44 European countries to choose from. Thanks to the tried and tested formula, which primarily takes into account guest satisfaction as well as the number and timeliness of the ratings, not only large sites make it into the ranking.

We think it is great that we have succeeded in being among the most popular campsites in Europe for the fourth time in a row. According to camping.info's evaluation, our Naturist Family Sports and Nature Camp at Sonnensee is ranked 16th in Europe, 8th in Germany and 2nd in Lower Saxony this year. You can find all the information at https://www.camping.info/award.

We find it fascinating that camping info has also compiled a ranking of the most popular campsites for

naturists and the BffL is even placed there as the most popular site. The entire evaluation can be found at https://www.camping.info/go/fkk

And then there is a special award: the best overall ranking in the category "friendliness" also goes to the Sonnensee team this year.

From our point of view, our slogan "Experience naturism in harmony with nature", coupled with a high level of friendliness, cleanliness, service and quality seems to have been the key to success again this year.

The modern sanitary facilities, the diverse sports facilities, the ten bee colonies and the Sonnensee honey, the large number of high-stem fruit trees and the herb spirals round off our concept.

In recent years, we have also succeeded in receiving a large number of enquiries for membership in the Naturist Camp at Lake Sonnensee through increased public relations work, in expanding the number of members to over 1,500 people and in further developing the association in a way that is robust for the future.

We are also very visible in another area, as the annual "New Year's Nude Swim" repeatedly attracts dozens of swimmers to Misburg and enjoys great popularity. At this year's 8th New Year's Naked Swim, the water in the beach area of the lake did not have to be specially cleared of ice for the swimmers, as the water was a "warm" three degrees and the air almost 15 degrees. Of course, the more than 80 spectators duly cheered on the brave athletes as they jumped into the cool water. Afterwards, the brave swimmers met in the nearby sauna area to warm up, where they were already making predictions about how cold the water might be next year at the 9th New Year's Nude Swim.





There is one thing I would like to mention: We are not a campsite! We are something much better. A family sports club for naturists with a great community, a campsite-like infrastructure in a "paradise" at the Sonnensee at the gates of Hanover.

Come and visit us for a short or longer stay if you are on your way to the north. Further information can be found on our website **https://www.sonnensee-hannover.de**.

We look forward to seeing you.

Jan Schlegel, 1st chairman





Introducing a new venue

Lauma Aurora Bush Camp is situated between Bela-Bela and Thabazimbi. With six cabins available they can host up to twenty-four people. The venue is picturesque and well maintained with a rustic feel that would leave you longing for all the modern amenities that we are accustomed too. Here you can escape the rat race and relax in in the bush atmosphere, play put-put, cool down in the pool or soak in the heated pool. The bush camp is available to both naturist and textile guests, but it can be booked as a naturist only weekend when enough guests attend. Note that naturist rules apply. For those who need to relax, or need a new spot to find yourself, this is the ideal setting. Let's grow the lifestyle and support Lauma Aurora Bush Camp.



















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Naturist Contact Details Naturist Associations

NOT ALL OF THESE ARE MEMBERS OF SANNA

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Free State	Graeme	chairman@kznna.org.za	083 457 9614
Gauteng Naturist Association (GNA)	Emelia	chairman@gna.org.za	083 543 2816
KwaZulu Natal Naturist Association (KZNNA)	Graeme	chairman@kznna.org.za	083 457 9614
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Mpumalanga	Emelia	chairman@gna.org.za	083 543 2816
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North West Naturist Association (NWNA)	Emelia	chairman@gna.org.za	083 543 2816
South African National Naturist Association (SANNA)	Christo	chairman@sanna.org.za	073 178 0779
Western Cape Naturist Association (WCNA)	Christo	chairman@sanna.org.za	073 178 0779

Naturist Resorts



SunEden Naturist Resort Monique or Kathy reception@suneden.com



Kiepersolkloof Naturist Resort Magda info@kiepersolkloof.com

Naturist Friendly Establishments



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