



CAMPERS CHATTER

BREEDE OTTER, WORCESTER

**18 – 21 March
2022**

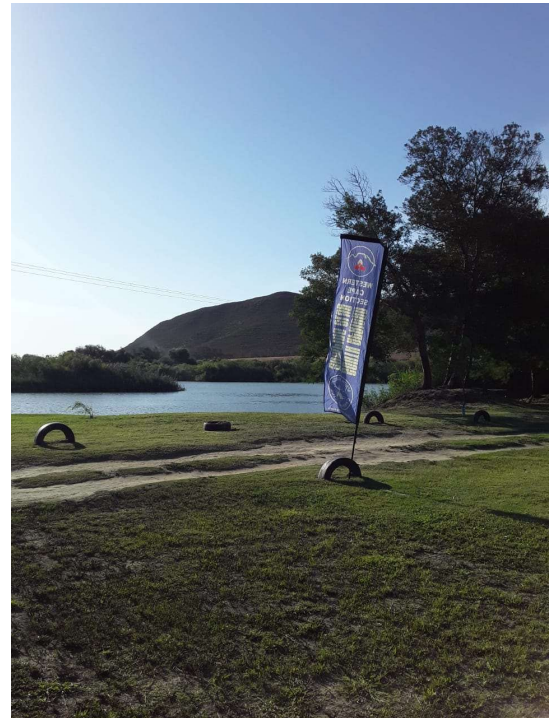
Thank you Sandy Van Rooyen for the camp report and all those that contributed to the photos.

CAMPERS:

Schalk and Mariaan Annie	Theo and Libby	
Martin and Annette Ruth	Gianni and Sally	Ginger and
Greg and Glynn Helen	Zorba and Anel	
Johnny and Sandy	Nadia	

GUESTS:

Barry and Lily



We were really looking forward to our first camp with the Club at Breede Otter as we didn't have a very good start to the year with a family crisis we had to deal with so it has been a bit of a late start with the camping for 2022. Took my half day on the Friday and dashed through to the Retirement Home to see my Mum, then it was back home to hitch up and off we toddled. Half way down Koeberg Road, Johnny discovered he'd left his wallet behind so we had to do a U-Turn and hop foot it back to the house to collect it (thankfully we did because there was a Police Road Block at the Tunnel checking Licenses). So off we went again and once again on Koeberg Road, I remembered I had left the milk behind. No turning back this time, we'd get milk in Rawsonville.

Arrived at the campsite – wow it has grown somewhat since we were last there, to find quite a few campers (not all of ours) already set up and enjoying the perfect weather. Found a spot next to Martin and Annette and proceeded to set up camp in the heat. Eventually we couldn't take it anymore and donned our swimming costumes and had a quick swim in the river to cool down before continuing on.

Being a newish area of the extended campsite, the grass on some of our sites wasn't the best but we all managed to fit in and everyone congregated at the front where the sites overlooked the river and we were spoilt with some magical sunsets. Greg and Glynn showed



off their new caravan and everyone took turns to have a tour. May you have many camping experiences with your new rig Greg and Glynn and hopefully there aren't any demarcation tyres at the future campsites – the farmer had his work cut out for him putting tyres back where some of the campers had misjudged and ridden over them.

Again being a newish area, the trees they have planted are still pretty young so there was no shade but over the weekend, we all congregated under the trees that were alongside the river which was great and obviously there was the river to cool off in. Ruth was adamant at the beginning of the weekend that she wasn't going to swim with the "crocodiles" but eventually she decided she was going to take her chances with the "crops" because it was just so hot. The electricity boxes (because of the floods they can experience) were way up on poles and you had to climb a ladder to plug in. The ablutions were very good although with so many people for the long weekend, they were having difficulty trying to keep them clean.



As it was a long weekend we decided to bring our "yacht" (aka canoe) as well as our little putt putt boat which proved to be a lot of fun with everyone. Not to be outdone, Schalk also brought out his putt putt boat – same as ours but newer so as usual it became a competition whose boat could go the fastest. Unfortunately ours was the "loser" but it was great fun "racing" up and down the river whilst sipping on a cold one.

Friday evening the wind came up a bit but eventually it died down to a perfect gentle breeze and we enjoyed a great evening, braai'ing and catching up on everyone's news. After being in the sun and swimming the whole day, most of us decided it was a good idea to turn in early'ish for the night.



Saturday woke to an absolutely beautiful day once again and it was more swimming, boating and parking off. Annie's son Barry and his daughter Lily arrived to spend the night. What a little cutey Lily is and such a friendly little girl. She found it great fun to visit everyone's caravans and kept all of us entertained with her antics.



Saturday afternoon some of us decided to go on the Boat Ride for a Sundowner Cruise whilst the rest of the campers stayed back at camp. So off we went armed with some snacks and drinks and enjoyed a leisurely cruise on the river. There was no pole dancing this time around as we shared the cruise with some other non-Club campers so everyone had to be on their best behaviour, well as best as we could.

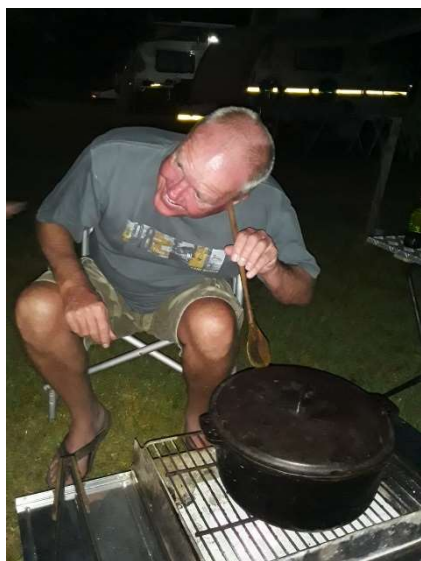
Back at camp and the wind once again came up late afternoon but luckily died down again allowing us to make our little braai's and enjoy the evening.



It's always great to have an extra night when one is camping. It makes a big difference to the weekend when you don't have to pack up on the Sunday. Sunday was another day of swimming and boating with potjies planned for the evening. Gianni "treated" us (and the rest of the campsite) to his new camping shorts which he bought online – wow, it took us back to our youth in the 70's and the era of "Staying Alive". Only you can pull off those shorts Gianni but I am glad you decided to change them for some longer shorts after being ragged by the guys.

On one of our "cruises" on the river, Johnny and Gianni were in our little putt putt boat, Martin and Annette were in Schalk's putt putt boat and Sally and I were in the canoe. We all met up further up the river where the Barge Boat goes and were parking off chatting when the Barge Boat was on its way back. And then the fun began – there was a lot of banter and laughter between some of the people on the Barge Boat and us and eventually Johnny and Gianni managed to smorkel two glasses of red wine from some people on the Barge Boat which was hilarious. The people on the Barge Boat were convinced that Johnny and Gianni were gay – and I don't think them hugging helped matters.

Back on land and as it was still so hot, we all congregated under the trees next to the river for some more wine and snacks. Later it was time to start the potjies – I don't know what it is but it always becomes a competition between the guys. Theo and Libby were making lamb shanks and Johnny and Martin were both making lamb pots. We were lucky that the pots turned out deliciously because at one stage both Johnny and Martin were "listening" to their pots cooking through their wooden spoons.



We decided to have the Chairman's Chat on the Sunday evening rather than the Saturday and as we'd been so busy boating and swimming and drinking, Johnny had to wing the fines so there were only a few. Later on in the evening, someone spotted what looked like a whole load of dots in a straight line in the sky – it was amazing as it moved across the sky slowly and then all of a sudden disappeared. Apparently it was Elon Musk's satellite train which according to the wonderful GOOGLE, travels at an unbelievable speed of 500km every minute but because it is so high up in the sky, one can still see it.



Monday morning a few of the couples had other commitments so they packed up early in the morning, whilst the rest of us packed up leisurely. Schalk and Mariaan decided to stay an extra night on Monday night and avoid the rush on the roads – lucky fishes.

All in all a great camp and a super campsite. Will definitely be back again (hopefully the trees will be a bit bigger) but will have to book way in advance as it is very popular.

FINES

- Greg for misjudging the turning circle of his car and caravan and driving over the farmer's demarcation tyres, taking two of them out of the ground completely
- Greg for driving off to the shop and forgetting he had his fridge plugged in – a new plug is on the shopping list for the next camp
- Johnny for only bringing 6 savannah lights for me for a long weekend – he forgot. Mmm, it's not the 1st time!
- Gianni for "scaring" us with his 70's shorts – you rock Gianni!

