



In memory of Ginger Seipp

Those who touch our lives stay in our hearts forever

CAMPERS CHATTER

BERG EN WATER CAMPSITE – RAWSONVILLE

7 – 9 OCTOBER 2022

Thank you for the photo contributions.



CAMPERS:

Trevor & Sandy Biggs
 Joe & Cheryl Faktor
 Theo van Niekerk & Elizabeth Scholtz
 Mariaan Walters
 Dave & Jean Reid

Gary & Barbs Amory
 Greg & Glynn Nieuwstad
 Andy and Sandy Weddell

Helen Constantinides
 Annaline Solomon
 Johnny & Sandy van Rooyen
 Craig & Rina Wilson

Friday morning 9.30 saw us all packed up and ready to go camping. I was looking forward to camping at Berg en Water as I had just recced the camp before but missed out on the 2 occasions when the club camped there. Arrived at Du Toitskloof Winery where we were meeting Dave and Jean and stocked up on snacks, coffee and of course some wine. Looks like this is a popular brunch stop as photographic evidence shows the Weddells also had a stop there too.





The Isuzu/Invader rigs were ready to roll and be bowled into camp to find Andy & Sandy and Gary & Barbs in the process of setting up. Shade was a sparse commodity between the sites but the fringes did have some trees. After getting the low-down on the load shedding schedule from Monique (the campsite owner) together with instructions on what to do and what not to do (only flush loos if **really** necessary 😊) when the power is out we proceeded to set up camp. The rest of the campers arrived in dribs and drabs during the afternoon. Mariaan bravely towed her van to

camp all by herself. We set up our camp very quickly (only the small awnings) as the weather was getting hotter and hotter. Not only beautiful sunshine but just a gentle breeze – absolute bliss after our previous windy camps. Soon the campers were gathering under the tree shade, catching up on everyone’s news and rehydrating after exerting ourselves putting up tents and awnings.



As the shadows lengthened the “boys” started sorting out the braai fires and we had a lovely evening. The highlight was Jean telling us tales of “The Adventures of Dave”. Sorry, Dave they were very funny. Love you Dave 😊 ❤️

A relaxing evening around the fire was enjoyed and slowly the campers wandered off to bed. Trevor & I were almost the last to leave (Trev did NOT sneak off early for a change) and left Helen & Rina to be fire marshals and extinguish the remaining fire.

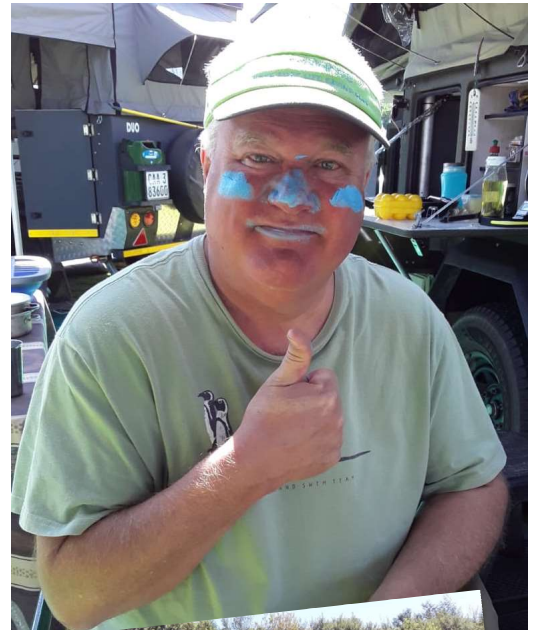
Saturday morning dawned with the promise of another great weather day. Andy was up and about early and getting breakfast going – I suspect there was a little drummer boy playing in his head 😊) and Andy’s Sandy was summoned to brekkie at 7.30. We were all still trying to wake up with the first coffee of the day but NO! Weddells were stinking out the campsite with the smells of delicious bacon cooking. Sandy W said she wasn’t going to get brekkie later so attired in her PJs and looking a bit sleepy, she tucked in. What a yummy looking meal.



The day was spent with Craig hard at work fixing stuff on his camper van, Barbs listening to her audio book and the rest of us lounging around in the shade. Fixing stuff was evidently thirsty work. When Greg went into town he was placed on a secret mission to get more beers for Craig (shhhh don't tell Rina) .



Theo and Libby took Mariaan and Annie off to do some wine tasting. Johnny and Dave were very diligently applying sunblock and looked like Braveheart – thankfully no kilts were involved.



By lunch time the mercury was hitting the early 30s and some intrepid campers decided on a swim. They said the water was refreshing – for refreshing read cold.



Theo and the ladies returned from their wine tasting and told us that they had gone to have a look at Wolvenberg campsite. On arrival there they were MOST surprised to see a group of about 30 nude guys at the campsite. Whether Theo was nervous because he was wearing a pink shirt or, more likely, he was preserving the delicate sensibilities of the ladies in his care, he wheel spun his vehicle out of there so fast you couldn't see nudies for dust. (Sorry, no photographic evidence 😞)

On hearing this Rina was quite keen to take a trip to Wolvenberg campsite but alas the campers started gathering in the shade for the AGM. We were all very pleased to see Ginger and Ruth arriving to join us for the afternoon. Due to Ginger's ill health Johnny chaired the meeting and did an outstanding job indeed. He presented Ginger with a gift (of his favourite Van Loveren wine) from the members as a thank you for his Chairmanship of the past 2 years. Officials were elected and your committee for 2022/2023 is as follows:

Chairman	Greg Nieuwstad
Vice-Chairperson	Johnny van Rooyen
Secretary	Sandy van Rooyen
Treasurer	Sandy Biggs
Booking Officer	Annette Colman
Committee Member	Elizabeth Scholtz

Thank you thank you to Gary & Barbs for making your 'lounge' available with a couple of gazebos and tree shade for our AGM.

After the meeting we welcomed our newest members Dave & Jean Reid with the now traditional round of shooters.

It was lovely to catch up with Ruth and seeing Ginger enjoying a shooter and some snacks. They had a long drive home so we all lined up to say our goodbyes not realising that it would be a final farewell to Ginger who sadly passed away on Tuesday after the AGM. We will cherish the memories.

Sandy VR, your lights around the caravan looked very festive – when they started working 😊. Once again the fires were lit (not mentioning the gas fire lighter pipe Johnny) and we started preparing for our "Build a Burger" feast. Thank you Sandy VR for organising and purchasing the goodies, and thank you to all the willing hands for the prep, slicing and chopping. Thank you too to the guys for braaiing the burgers and chicken fillets – they were "done to a turn" 😊



After supper we tucked into delicious peppermint crisp tarts made by Sandy VR and a lovely fridge tart made by Rina. Libby and Annie donated some Limoncello Liqueurs, all the way from Italy, which went down a treat.

Our evening was completed by a musical interlude by our resident musician Dave, with Andy accompanying him on his Fender Pinotage Guitar. Some campers even sang along.



All the fresh air, sunshine and lovely supper eventually sent the campers off to bed leaving Theo, Libby, Mariaan and Annie to “switch off the lights”.

Sunday started with lovely sunshine again but luckily a bit of a breeze picked up otherwise we would have cooked packing up. Joe and Cheryl had an energetic walk up to Stille Waters campsite a good 3kms away. We hope you averted your eyes when walking past the nudists’ camp 😊. Greg started his search for his missing wallet (FYI he lost his watch the day before – forgot it at the swimming beach but honest campers kept it for him) which he eventually remembered was in his other pants, LOL. Glynn returned from looking after their sick dog (she left after the AGM and slept at home) to help Greg pack up. Glynn, you are a silly girl. You should have come to camp much later after Greg pack everything up, instead you were washing dishes and taking down awnings.

Packing up proceeded at a slow pace with much resting in the shade. Before leaving we all polished off the remaining desserts from the night before.

Thank you all for a great camp, hope to see you at the Year End / Xmas camp.

Sandy B