THE "SPARE WHEEL"
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I hope everybody is well and are enjoying the school holidays with kids and/or reduced traffic volumes !

Our next getaway will be another new park, namely, **Mtwalume**, a little below Ifafa Beach. The website shows what looks like quite a nice resort situated around 600m from the beach – within walking distance but we'll probably all drive down. It is situated about 87 kms south of Durban – you take exit 79 .

The prices are quite reasonable at R70 per site plus R20 pppn ie: R110 per night for 2 .
There are also some chalets available if anybody is interested. (Phone 039 – 972 1719 – Brenda)

As always please send intentions soon so I can advise the park of names and numbers.

There is a restaurant on site but only open in high season. However they will open for us if there are sufficient numbers – probably only for a basic meal not the full menu – fish and chips or hamburgers etc . Again advise me early if I need to organise this.

Christmas Getaway

Once again we'll be going to Tugela Mouth. I understand it has been jacked up again .

Costs are:
R135-00 per night for 2 people
R90-00 per night for 2 pensioners
R90-00 per night for a single person

There is a refundable deposit for the access disc.
Please send intentions asap to facilitate planning for the getaway.

It's been quite awhile since we've had a getaway so I hope to see lots of you

at these two final getaways for 2015 .

2:

Tour to the Namaqualand Flowers - Aug/Sept 2015 .

To not bore you, this will just be a brief overview of our tour to the Northern Cape to see the flowers.

Three caravans, Rowland's, Scott's and Chameron's , left home on 22nd Aug 2015 heading for our first stop in East London . The first 4 days were some long and fast pulls, averaging 400 – 600 kms per day but we also drove through and experienced some of the small towns en route.
The route was : Home – East London – Graaff Reinet – Carnarvon and down to Nieuwoudtville (The base for the flower viewing) After 3 days at Nieuwoudtville (cut short by 1 day due to rain and cold) it was on to Lamberts Bay – Saldanha – Ceres – Simonstown – Gaansbaai - Cape Agulhas – Calitzdorp (Scotts devied to Stillbaai to visit friends) – departed Calitzdorp after one day after planning 3 as we found the spa quite a disappointment plus a very bad 20 km concrete road to and from the resort - and rested for 3 nights at Klein Plaas at Oudtshoorn where the Scott's rejoined the tour. (The best park on the trip – cannot be faulted and at a very reasonable cost).

Addo Elephant park was scheduled to be visited but we were unable to get space at the time so the route was deviated from. This is what is great about a caravan tour holiday.

For personal reasons I had to be back in Durban on Friday 18th Sept, while the other two had another week so Addo was booked for them from Sun 20th .
We left Oudtshoorn on Wed 16th Sept and headed for Jefferies Bay for one night. On Thursday morning , at 07h00 , I headed off in serious wind and rain to overnight in East London en route to Durban while Glen and Billy transferred to The Wiillows in PE until Sunday and on to Addo .
My trip to EL was, to put it bluntly, terrible – wind, rain and mist. On arrival in EL in the same conditions, It seemed a better plan to push through to Durban !!!! rather than overnight and set up and then pack up in these conditions.
At 23h00 - 15 hours and 1100 kms of nonstop towing later in horrible conditions , we arrived home - what a relief. In sections in the Transkei and Harding areas the mist was so bad I had to follow truck or bus lights.

The Scotts and Camerons spent until Wed at Addo, loving every minute – overnighted at East London and on to home .

My total distance was around 5500 Kms and park costs varied from R53 to R350 per night .- the average around R130

The flowers were a stunning experience – not from horizon to horizon as I expected but certainly hills covered in places.
Parks ranged from dilapidated Carvavon @ R53 – but safe) to Klein Plaas at around R140 – 5 star . Most of the municipal parks were basic and ok – all just need tlc. At Nieuwoudltville we suffered some theft and were then on high security - locking everything away at night . – a real pain .

We experienced typical Cape weather – cold, wind and rain for a lot of the trip – and serious cold!
People were friendly and hospitable – Cape tourism staff excellent
Cape roads, on the whole - good to excellent and clean .The little pull over stops neat and tidy.
We found meat and veges expensive – obviously fish mostly reasonable.

We did lots of gallivanting , touring and visiting small towns , plenty of mileage looking for flowers , took hundreds of pics, did a lot of tourist stuff – Capetown , wine farms, Cango Caves , take away fish and chips ,and spoiled ourselves with a beach restaurant at Muisbosskerm near Lamberts Bay - pig out on sea food !
The pensioners discounts were valuable , the Wild Card paid for itself many times over - eg : it costs R110 pp to visit Cape Point reserve – free with Wild Card.

It was planned to meet up with Roy and Tracey around the Vredendal area – they were also doing the flowers but in time share. However the weather really conspired against us as we left Nieuwoudltville a day early and our planned get together at Lamberts Bay was really washed out .

All in all , an excellent trip , travelled mostly new roads and towns and saw lots , no problems , accidents or break downs – not even a puncture .!

3:



Nieuwoudtville Park



Carnarvon !! They have a sense of humour!
And the cheapest diesel on the trip



Calvinia – on the road



Nieuwoudltville area



Loeriesfontein



Loeriesfontein windmill museum

4:



Nieuwoudltville area



Flower show at Clanwilliam



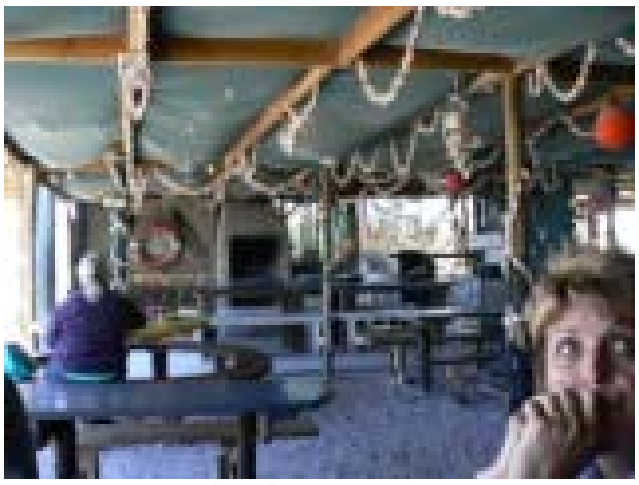
Lamberts Bay



Muisbosskerm beach restaurant

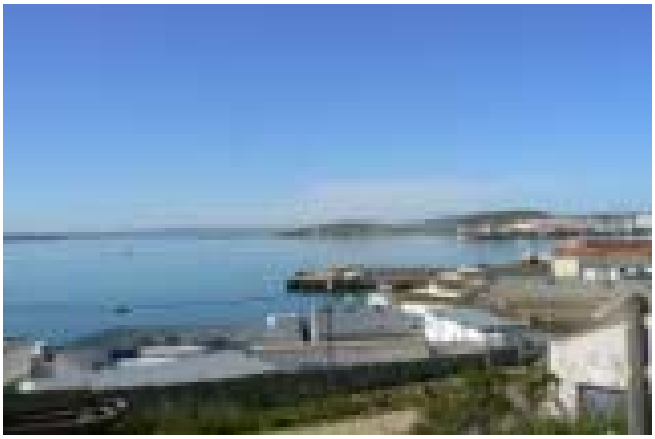


The famous (panty) pub at Paternoster.



Beach pub at Langebaan .

5:



Saldanha Bay



Penguins at The Boulders



Vehicular train at Cape Point



Cape Point



Gaansbaai



Any one for fish ?

6:



Waenshuiskrans – Arniston



Cape Agulhas lighthouse



Wreck at Cape Agulhas



Where two oceans meet



Drostdy Hof cellars The girls at their most natural !!



The mob

Hope you enjoyed the article. I'm sure any of the tour party will love to expand on the trip at a getaway.

Cheers

Hope to see you soon.

Larry





Congratulations !!!!

A new grandson to Bruno and Kathy

Son , Malcolm and daughter-in-law Lee-Anne presented the Zattaras' with a bouncing grandson, Kayden, on 24th August 2015.
Sincere congratulations to you all.

QUICK GLANCE GUIDE TO FREEWHEELERS GETAWAYS

HUB	WHERE	DATE
DURBAN/ZULULAND	Mtwalume	23-25th Oct 2015 Cost R110 pcp.
DURBAN/ZULULAND	Tugela Mouth	27-29th Nov 2015. Cost : R135 pcpn R90 pcpn – pensioners.
DURBAN/ZULULAND	TBA	

Until Next Time ……Keep on Freewheeling!!!

LARRY

Please note:
This newsletter is now also published on the Freewheelers website
Go to www.caravanparks.com and on to the Freewheelers section.