



## Laager 21

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## CAMP CHRONICLES

### 22 WATERVALLE OUTSPAN - 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2018

#### **Background**

22 Watervalle Campsite, to give it its proper name, is located on the Waterval farm, a privately owned farm and a proclaimed private nature reserve. It is about a 90 minute drive from Cape Town along the N7 with a turnoff at Piketberg, or the R44 from Wellington. In addition to campsites, there are also chalets and camp houses available for hire, but it is the waterfalls that make this place iconic. A hiking trail takes you on a route past all 22 of them. Springs feed the waterfalls all year round.

#### **Friday 26<sup>th</sup>:**

Unfortunately, due to a work commitment, we, the outspan hosts were unable to attend the first day of camp. However, from what we heard, it was so hot that nobody made any fires. Therefore, there was no *gesels vuur* that evening. Everybody just did his or her own thing.

#### **Saturday 27<sup>th</sup>:**

We arrived at the turnoff to Porterville before 09h00 that morning and decided to have some breakfast at the Spur Grill & Go. We passed the Manuels on the gravel road leading towards the camp. They were on their way to the Saturday Market in Porterville. We arrived at camp just after 10h00 and found the Jurgens and Smiths chilling at their sites.. We chatted to them for a bit. Everybody else was at either the Market or doing the hiking route up to the waterfalls. We quickly set up camp in order to have some shade from the heat, which was already climbing. By 11h30, I checked the temperature on my cell phone app and it read 35 °C. That was under the trees on our site, not in full sunshine!



We found a cooler spot further down on our site, towards the stream and chilled there for a bit. Then we went back to the Jurgens and Smiths who indicated they wanted to go up to the 1<sup>st</sup> waterfall to cool off. We went along. Renee and Donovan stayed at the 1<sup>st</sup> waterfall while the rest of us went up to the 2<sup>nd</sup> waterfall where we cooled off in the water. Ingrid and Merlin were brave enough and went under the actual waterfall to get a cold shower, albeit a very heavy shower!

When we were cooling off at the 2<sup>nd</sup> waterfall, we met Sandra and John Murray on their way back down. They had completed all 22 waterfalls. Well done to them! They took much longer than the expected time because they stopped and cooled off at each waterfall. John looked pretty knackered and we were a bit concerned about him. But after spending some time cooling off in the stream close to their camp, and rehydrating, John seemed back to being his old self again

If there's lesson to be learnt, never ever go on a hike without water to drink or something to eat. Especially in that heat!





Liedermans and guests at waterfall number 22!

On our way back from the waterfalls, as soon as we came out of the shade of the trees, the heat wave hit us again. We found the Liedermans and their guests, and chatted for a while about their adventure that morning. They left camp at about 06h30 hiked to all 22 waterfalls. Their hike took about three hours, one way. They explained that access to some of the waterfalls was rather “challenging” to say the least. If you have a fear of heights, then it was strongly suggested that you not try them. Well done Liedermans and congratulations to each of them for making the complete hike.

Trekkers spent most of Saturday trying to find cool spots. We met up with the Shaws, Pietersens and Manuels, “camping” in the stream below the Pietersen’s site. Most were sitting on chairs that were in the stream. The Shaws sat in the stream. We joined them and chatted about all

manner of stuff from matric exams, squatter camp fires, grandchildren, etc. Leon, who was sitting on a log that went across the width of the stream, started calling out different swimming strokes to Leighton. And Leighton very obligingly complied, splashing everybody wet in the process.!



Then Charlene became a bit anxious as she discovered there were tadpoles in the river! Leighton was the hero and tried to catch the tadpoles before they got too close to her. Not very successfully, I might add!

Just before 16h00, the Jurgens, Smiths, Cables and John went into town to watch the Currie Cup final in one of the pubs. Within minutes of arriving, Renee and Bonny got up and went to the back of the pub to sit on couches as they complained the benches where we sat, were too hard. Within ten minutes, both of them were sound asleep! Can’t really blame them as the rest of us wanted to bang our heads against the wall the way WP were playing.

That evening it was time for the Trekkers to prepare for their braai dessert competition. Part of the competition rules were that the dessert had to be made from scratch, i.e. no pre-bought items. It had to be cooked on the fire, no gas, microwave or oven allowed. With hindsight, we do feel a tad guilty asking them to prepare something on a fire, in that heat, but they were all very willing and did their best. Some were very creative and some desserts were well presented. So choosing a winner based on presentation, taste and originality/creativity, was not easy. A decision was taken that we would announce the winners after indaba.

### **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>:**

On Saturday the group agreed that indaba would be earlier than normal so that packing up could begin before the heat became unbearable. At the end of the indaba, we announced the winners of the braai dessert cook-off. The eventual winners were the Manuels who made an apple and caramel braai pie.

Second place went to the Pietersens for their pancake stack with a variety of berries and cream. And third place was a very close call between the Shaws and the Liedermans. The Shaws had a very good presentation, however, they had some overdone cake towards the bottom of their cups (we blame Leighton for that!). Third place then went to the Liedermans for their orange-infused chocolate cake with apple strudel. Well done to the winners but well done to all the Trekkers who took part!

We have introduced a new floating trophy for future cooking competitions – a Strawberry named **TC (Top Chef)**. Once again, from the hosts, thank you to everybody who took part in the braai dessert cook-off and being brave enough to prepare your desserts under such trying conditions. Thank you for the camaraderie and for an enjoyable outspan.



Braai dessert cook-off winners with their prizes

**Bonny & Russell**

**WE WERE HERE! ☺:**

Cable, Jurgens, Liederman, Manuel, Pietersen, Shaw, Smith

**Visitors:** Beulah Falk, Josh, Liam, Juwaine, Theresa, Wayne, Ann, Ronald, Sandra & John Murray

**No. of Units:****9**

Caravans	Trailer Tent	Tent	Rooftop Tent	Motorhome
1	0	6	2	0

**Apologies:** Arulandu, Carelse, De Kock, Gilbert, Hendricks, Lawrence, Simons, Sinden, Vicars & Williams

**Trekkertjies:** No Trekkertjies



Name	Surname	Nov
Loren	Manuel	9
Lyle	Pelton	17
Ann	Jessop	18
Jason	Vicars	21
Clint	Lawrence	27
Cherie	Williams	28

*Congratulations on your birthday!*

**Marty**

(is awarded at each outspan to the person who does "good deeds")

Leon awarded Marty to Karen for epitomising the outdoors by hiking to all 22 waterfalls and it's her 1<sup>st</sup> hike! Well done Karen!

**Thanks**

Special thanks to everyone for their participation in the NAGM weekend.  
Thanks must go to our reps on the NAGM committee – Leighton, Carla & Wayne.  
Thanks to the hosts, Russell & Bonny for a great evening with lots of fun and laughter!

**General:****1. NAGM**

- A request that a full reconciliation of all monies spent for the NAGM be made available by the NAGM committee to all Western Cape laagers.  
Proposer – Leon, Seconded – Benny

**2. Wood kitty:**

- For this camp, R200 was spent on wood but not used due to the extreme heat and will be available for the next outspan at Worcester Yacht Club in November 2018

### **3. Christmas Outspan:** 03/11/2018 – 02/12/2018

- Outspan will be at Miller's Point
- Leon proposed that a spit with pork be done like what was done at the NAGM. Chicken was proposed as the 2<sup>nd</sup> meat. Costs will be checked and maybe a 3<sup>rd</sup> meat will be added if monies are available.
- Veggies or salads still to be decided.
- Desserts still to be decided.
- Visitors to pay for their meals.
- Who does what is still up for grabs once the menu has been agreed upon.
- Bronwyn will send out a confirmation of attendance via whatsapp.
- Renee mentioned that the hall may not be available for us to use, Cherie to please communicate with Millers about the hall hire.

### **4. Combined camp for 2019:**

- L21 to propose Hollandsche Molen as the possible venue for the combined.

## **Charity**

Please don't forget the monthly toiletries contribution.



<b>Month</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Camp</b>
Jan	Deodorant	Khomeesdrif
Feb	Soap	Onrus
Mar	Face cloths	Hollandsche Molen
Apr	Body Lotion	Skurwekop
May	Baby/Talc Powder	Leentjiesklip
Jun	Tissues	Guano Caves
Jul	Shampoo	Van Zyl's
Aug	Conditioner	De Watergat
Sep	Hand Sanitiser	Mountain Breeze
Oct	ToothPaste	22 Watervalle
Nov	Tooth Brush	Worcester Yacht Club
Dec	Mouthwash	Millers Point

## **Request to Members:**

Leighton : Requested that members post when they are leaving from home for camp so members at camp will know they are on their way.

# Fines

## Fines Master: – was DON JURGENS

Fines carried over from the NAGM weekend, so please check with Lesley and settle any monies owed.

## MOUNTAIN BREEZE

- Bennie for leaving caravan keys at home
- Leighton for warning us about other laager baddies
- Ingrid and Renee for sending Merlin to pour drinks while he was chopping wood
- Ingrid for throwing bracket of fridge out the caravan because door would not close
- Merlin for leveling out Wayne's caravan so that Gen could not roll on him - it was their anniversary!
- Ingrid for sticking Don's name tag upside down on his t-shirt
- Des for leaving wok on gas stove when she had finished cooking
- Robbie for showing Karen how to fan the fire so she could do it instead of him
- Lionel for running out of gas while cooking breakfast
- Leighton for his impersonation of an auctioneer. Needs work Leighton!
- Ingrid for water balloons on her partner's head instead of over the volley ball net
- Leighton for falling for the singer on stage
- Benny for breaking the president's glass
- Robbie for calling Ace of Base - Wys jou muis!
- Roland for getting Penny out of bed to sit and kuier at the Smiths camp then he falls asleep
- Roland for suffering with a condition and using big words like "rendering bacon fat"
- Karen for telling the story of how she and Robbie met and he came to visit her so often that he felt like her brother and not her boyfriend!
- Ingrid for feeding the cat Don's bacon

## WOODEN SPOON

Keith for not helping to make the breakfast and only arriving in time to eat

## 22 WATERVAL

- Ingrid and Renee for not telling the guys to give up their seats for Des when she and Bennie came to visit their camp
- Leighton for laughing when a miggie flew into Don's mouth and he choked
- Sandra for not making sure Johnny had water and a sun hat on their hike
- Renee and Bronwyn for sleeping in the pub while the rugby was on
- Sandra and Ingrid for forgetting the pillows at home
- Russell and Bronwyn for only arriving late on Saturday after telling us to make arrangements at the gate for 8am
- Robbie for not helping Karen to present their pudding
- Ingrid for letting Grants travel all the way to camp and not making use of him

## WOODEN SPOON

To be carried over to next camp

***Remember folks the issue of fines is a fun event and all proceeds go to charity***