



Laager 21

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OUTSPAN CHRONICLES

Vloedbos Outspan - 14 to 17 June 2019

Vloedbos, owned by the Du Toit family, is situated in the Overberg and is nestled between Caledon and Napier. It is a well-maintained resort with lots to do and it is very family-orientated. There's a super slide, speed slide, two cold pools, warm indoor pool, mini golf, play area for the kiddies including a trampoline, paintball, fishing in the nearby dam, the quad train for the little ones, a hall with pool, table tennis and a TV to watch the latest sports, mountain bikes trails, 4 x 4 tracks, etc, etc. There are 46 campsites and chalets of various sizes ranging from 2 to 10 sleepers. There also a tuck shop, which is very convenient as the nearest towns (Caledon and Napier) are over 20 km away. By the way, Napier is pronounced "na"+"pier", not "nay"+"peer". Just saying so that you don't get fined as I did!

We usually book Vloedbos at this time of year for two main reasons: long weekend and the Snoek and Patat festival in Napier. The downside is that it can get pretty cold this time of year.



Friday 14th:

Bonny and I arrived at about 13h30. Unfortunately, as the office only opened at 14h00, we decided to drive into Napier (not Naypeer!) for something to eat. We had a simple but delicious breakfast (served the whole day). The coffee was yummy!

When we got back to camp, the Murrays were busy setting up so we set up next to them. Then the Liedermans (Robbie, Liam and Jowayne) arrived. At first we thought the Liedermans had joined another Laager as they turned left towards the far field. By early evening, the Jurgens and Pietersens were the last to arrive.

After 16h00 the temperature started to dip very quickly so we migrated to the lapa, which we had for the entire weekend. Bonny made soup which she shared with everybody, while others braaied. Once our bellies were satiated and the fire was roaring, the conversations started. Donny and his singing fish, Billy provided the entertainment for the evening. This, of course, had everyone packing up in laughter.



By 22h00, the lights in the lapa go off automatically. This is the signal that we are supposed to tone down the volume of our conversations. However, this is Laager 21 and we tend to do the exact opposite. Before long, someone popped into the lapa to inform us we were "a bit loud and needed to tone down". Most left for bed but Benny, Donny, Robbie and I stayed to continue our conversations. We tried to tone down the volume. We really did, but I don't think we were successful because the next morning we were informed by our fellow Trekkers that "our voices carried far and wide".

Saturday 14th:

In the morning, we were greeted by ice on our cars and anything left outside. Benny was the first to leave for Napier as he took part in the 15 km mountain bike race. The rest of us followed. Most went for breakfast at the festival while Bonny and I went to visit Bredasdorp. The Agrimark was the highlight of our trip! On our way back to Napier we discovered they had closed the main road, probably for the street parade. We were diverted along all the gravel back roads in Napier. It turned out to be quite a long detour but we got to see parts on Napier we normally would not.

Back at the festival, we bumped into Benny. For someone who had just completed a 15 km race, he seemed in good spirits and not as muddy as he was at the previous race. The race commentator did mention that Benny was so laidback going over the finish line that it seemed his shadow would overtake him! Most stayed at the festival while the Jurgens and Murrays went to visit their respective family and/or friends.

Back at camp by late afternoon and the fires were started. Most braaied while a few made potjies. Then we migrated back to the lapa for warmth and conversation. The Jurgens introduced a game, similar to trivial pursuit. They also shared one set of spectacles between them to read the questions. It was decided the boys would play against the girls. Most questions were pretty difficult and our poor brain cells had to work overtime but we learnt a lot. Must say, the teachers really sucked at the geography questions! Ingrid was the score keeper and with hindsight, that was probably not a good idea as we still believe she withheld some points due to us boys. Fortunately we did not have to employ the services of Earnest and Young to verify the scoring as the boys won anyway!

Sunday 15th.

Sunday was a lazy day with most only surfacing late morning. We had an indaba at 11h00. Donny had a hard time handing over Marty (as he usually does) but he eventually decided Benny deserved it. Lionel was the Fines Master and awarded the wooden spoon to Donny for arguing with his wife during the games on Saturday evening.



After the indaba Bonny & I went for a walk/hike along one of the 4x4 tracks. Some stunning



views from up on the hills.

At about 12h30, Benny decided he wanted to do the 4 x 4 track and invited everyone along. Bennie and Des lead the pack with the Willaims joining them. Lionel was navigator and photographer while Des and Cherie were passengers. The Murrays followed Benny in their Jeep, and myself and Donny jumped in with Robbie in his Wildtrak. Initially Benny took us into a cul de sac. He deserved a fine for that, but fortunately for him, the indaba was already done.



we



We all experienced this wonderful sense of euphoria when remembered that Monday was a holiday and we did not

have to pack up!

Sunday evening was relatively quiet compared to the first two nights. Some braaied while others made potjie. Bonny and I had a fairly early night because we planned to leave early the next morning to visit my mom. My sister phoned to say she was not doing so well.

Monday 16th:

We packed as soon as we got up. We noticed the Williams packing up too. Most campers were at home by about lunchtime.

A big thanx to all for making this such an enjoyable outspan!

Bonny & Russell

Attendees: Cable, Jurgens, Liederman, Murray, Pietersen, Williams

Apologies: Arulandu, Carelse, De Kock, Gilbert, Hendricks, Lawrence, Manuel, Saffier, Sasman/White, Schwulst/Morris, Scholtz, Shaw, Simons, Sinden, Smith & Vicars

Visitors: Jowayne & Liam

Congratulations to the following people on your birthdays!



<u>Name</u>	<u>Surname</u>	<u>Jul</u>
Courtney	Cable	5
Wayne	Hendricks	5
Terrence	Gilbert	15
Leon	Manuel	17
Joan	Morris	19
Megan	Vicars	27
Tamlin-Lee	Smith	28

Marty

Donny gave Marty to **Benny** for always encouraging participation in Club activities.

Upcoming Outspans:

- **BIRTHDAY OUTSPAN:** 19th – 21st July 2019
Cherie checked availability of the hall at Ou Skip and has made a provisional booking for this outspan. Request for confirmation of attendance to be sent via Whatsapp during next week.
- **DE WATERGAT:** 8TH – 11TH August 2019
Request for confirmation of attendance to be sent out in due course.

General:

- A matter pertaining to membership was raised and Exco will provide feedback at the next outspan.
- A request was made to consider to do the Back2Basics camp as the first camp of the year.
- Any amendments to the constitution needs to be sent via the PC to the National Council’s secretary before the next NAGM.
- Clothing items, brag boards and trays - a request for each will be sent out in due course.
- Just a reminder for NAGM – registration and payment is due by 30th June for those members attending.
- Further investigation into some unknown mentioned parks will be required and feedback will be given to Exco and the members before any decisions to visit is made.
- **Charity** – proposal made that every 3 months we bring a pack of items to camp,

March	Soap, face cloth, tissues
June	Toothpaste, toothbrush, mouthwash
Sept	Deodorant, body lotion, talc/baby powder
Dec	Shampoo, conditioner, hand sanitiser

Tips for Campers:

Cherie – tie down items in the caravan even if on a black road top as things still move around.

Fines

Fines Master: – was **LIONEL**

FINES:

Russell saying Napeer and it's Napier
 Robbie for talking about how lekker the wors is and Karen was not here.
 *Everyone for trying to figure out who is the fines master.
 *(Bronwyn, Russell, Sandra, John, DesP, Benny, Robbie, Cherie, Don & Ingrid)
 Ingrid for lovely milk tart.
 Russell for ignoring Bronwyn
 Everyone for thinking Ingrid is fines master
 *(Bronwyn, Russell, Sandra, John, DesP, Benny, Robbie, Cherie, Don & Ingrid)
 Don for his fishy moment
 **All members for being so loud except John and Sandra for going to bed early
 **(Bronwyn, Russell, DesP, Benny, Robbie, Cherie, Don & Ingrid)

Saturday :

Robert for taking a “old people” nap
 Don for being so positive he's going to get Marty
 Don for sucking up to Ingrid for the night to get lucky
 Benny for vying for Don's Marty by serving snacks.
 Don and Ingrid for disagreeing about their own game.
 Des for not going along to support Benny's mountain biking and shame he wandered
 around like a lost patat afterwards

WOODEN SPOON – R10-00

Don for bringing fish inland as there was no fish in the river.

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