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LAAGER 8

Stillewaters 19th - 21st April 2024

The Browns set off for Stillewaters at about 1.00pm on Friday and were expecting to arrive after the 2pm. arrival time, as stipulated by the park.

To book Stillewaters site 6 the site fee is set at a minimum rate of R2250.00 and/or R150.00 per person per night thereafter. In order to guarantee a good turnout, it was decided to invite Laager 3 to join us and they obliged. In the end we had 10 couples in attendance.

We arrived at the park at around 2.30pm with Johan and Rosemary right behind us. Willem and Debbie, Allen and Meryl, Freddie and Pearl, Nigel and Shirley and Alex and Colleen were already there. Lesley and Marieta and Mark and Johanna arrived a little later with Wayne and Vanessa arriving in the later afternoon.

It was a hot afternoon, and I was disgusted to find that there was no power due to an electrical fault in the area. Fortunately, on my quest to find ice I had only to go as far as the honesty shop 100m down the road. Bubbles soon flowed and we sheltered in the shade of the van until the sun was low in the sky before completing our setup.

Now the attraction of site 6, the newest site at Stillewaters, is that there are a number of facilities on offer. A large lapa with fridges, washup facilities, tables and benches, all opening onto a deck with a marvellous view across the valley toward the mountains. A swimming pool and hot water tub complement the deck area. There are 5 other sites situated along the bank of a rocky stream to choose from. I would recommend site 2 for the Club for our next visit. It is smaller and well grassed.

Our evening braai was a busy affair as we all sat around the central braai pit and braaied up a storm. Acquaintances were renewed and we all chatted and enjoyed the perfect evening weather.

Saturday dawned as another perfect day, and we relaxed or went shopping at the nearby towns. Nigel and Wayne were keen to try a 4x4 trail nearby which was reported to extend well into the nearby hillside. I was invited to tag along with Vanessa and Wayne in the Fortuna and Nigel and Shirley travelled in his. It turned out to be a most entertaining ride and I was Impressed at how well these 4x4 Fortuners handled the track. It was just like driving in a rocky riverbed. Just rocks, no sand and steep to boot.

It was good to chat to Allen and Meryl who have just returned from their lengthy trip to Italy. They had a fantastic time with numerous pictures placed on Facebook.

Saturday evening was similar to Friday evening but this time a fire was lit in the braai pit to keep us warm. It was a little cooler, so the fire went down well. Angela and I did a potjie on the Potjie Pal and others had their various braai equipment on display. Alex and Colleen also did a pot on the gas.

Indaba was at 11 as usual and we welcomed Laager 3 and expressed thanks that they were able to contribute to our enjoying a fantastic weekend together.

I was delighted to hand Wayne his 300 outspan disc which he celebrated with Laager 3 in March at Koningskop.

We discussed dwindling membership figures and possible future combined outspans and agreed that members were always free to combine with other clubs subject to prior arrangements concerning booking etc.

Future outspans were discussed with emphasis on booking during the winter months. It may be best to choose parks where no prior bookings arrangements are necessary. In this regard Strandskloof is off for July and Berg River is on in place of. I will send a whatsapp to members closer to the time to confirm numbers.

Spoons and fines courtesy of Angela were as follows:

Fine: Mark Webster – he kindly allowed us to camp in his “back yard”, but then parked his ‘van so close to the lapa steps, it was difficult to get into his “front yard” (the Lapa)!

Fines: Debbie & Willem Honing – for graciously allowing us to use their “en-suite” facilities, but not regulating the hot water properly! (For those who weren’t there, D&W were camped very close to the ablutions).

Fine: Vanessa – on the bum, as usual. This time, she needed a washing up cloth.

Spoons: Wayne & Dave – breaking the park rules by playing music.

Spoon: Wayne – trying to “break” Dave when 4x4ing.

Chief Spoon: Dave – for leaving his toiletry bag at home (and trying to blame me for not reminding him to bring it!).

Thank you Dave, great newsletter !

Birthdays Marieta 22nd May, we will see her before for a kiss.

Next Outspan Imhoff Park 17th-19th May AGM R300 pnight site
Please pay club fees R150 prior to the meeting at 2.30pm.
Any nominations for the new committee ??

FUTURES Ganzekral ?? 21st - 23rd June NB changed date Alex to book please

Berg River 19th - 21st July no booking reqd.

SAFE TOWING Scotty

