



**THE "SPARE WHEEL"
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I hang my head in shame that it is now the second quarter of 2020 and this is the first newsletter I've published.

However, in my defence, I did suffer some serious computer hassles - out of my control and my limited brain power. Thanks to you all for assisting with my group email testing - seems I've finally got it programmed right. - Time will tell!

I trust everybody is adhering to the governments' new lockdown laws and staying safe and healthy. This has really messed up a lot of peoples' holiday plans with all holiday resorts shut down. Travelling to family is also impossible.

I'm personally actually rather enjoying this forced isolation - I'm certainly managing to catch up on many projects that have been on the back burner for a few years.

Dolphin Park.

Our first getaway of 2020 was held at Dolphin caravan park on the North coast at Ballito over the 24/26 Jan weekend.

This was a new venue for Freewheelers and was obviously an excellent choice with an outstanding attendance of 21. Either that or folks were getting serious withdrawal symptoms - or both. Quite a few arrived on Thursday to enjoy an extended weekend.

While the sites are a bit scattered, it is a lovely park and well maintained.

A la Bazley - there are tea and scones at both morning and afternoon tea times. Always lekker. The ladies got roped into aquarobics by a park resident and had a ball.

This was another chilled weekend with everybody getting together and chatting up a storm over the weekend - most of us had not seen each other since the Christmas getaway in early December.

A warm welcome to new members - Dirk and Jeanette van Leeuwen.

They did join us a few months ago so obviously they decided you lot were not so bad !

All our intrepid park runner enthusiasts still managed to find a run - this time the run was at Ballito. Others enjoyed the beach and coastal walkway.

Saturday evening saw almost everybody coming together at the park communal braai area and continued to chat up storm.



Sunday was our usual slowly packing up. Those, if any, who took their time paid for it when the heavens opened in the early afternoon. I had planned to only leave on the Monday so got lucky as I left the next day with dry awnings.

We have in our midst a Springbok athlete

Huge congratulations to Lyndy Buitendach on being selected for the S.A. Springbok Ladies Masters Hockey team.

They are scheduled to play their first international match in Cape Town later in the year. (The Men's team go overseas - bummer! However, with the current travel restrictions, it's maybe a good thing?)

I suggest you get a few autographs from her while you can. You can sell them later when she's a superstar and buy a new caravan !!!!!

3:

Bushwillow 6/8 March 2020 .

After an initial slow response to the getaway, we had 12 intentions for this lovely park. It was in pristine condition, grass newly mowed and spotless ablutions, as usual.

This time we did not have any rain so NO MUD !

Those who arrived on Thursday just did their own thing - supper wise. The usual chatting and catching up is par for the course - and staying hydrated.

Some of our die-hard fishermen had a go at catching the guppies in the dam.

Weather for the entire weekend was stunning - not even really cold. The evening skies were clean and bright and one could almost touch the stars.

(methinks we should have a star gazing evening at our next getaway there - not tooooo cold weather and a clear sky !!! Just need some knowledgeable person and a laser torch to point out the planets and constellations.)

On Friday evening, in the hall, Freewheelers sponsored a lekker beef curry and rice plus rotties, sambals and all the trimmings for all the members. Sincere appreciation to Sarie for all her hard work - a few busy days prior to the getaway, with lots of preparation and cooking.

It was an excellent curry - very well done and many thanks !



During Saturday, some went off the Karkloof Farmers Market for a look around and/or breakfast, others into Howick for supplies and the fitness freaks took themselves off to the Midlands for another park run - this time at the Piggly Wiggly venue.

4:

We had some new faces in Kevin and Pam Hall who come camping with us. Friends of Mack and Lyndy. Hope they enjoyed the weekend with us - we'll see if they join the club.

Craig and Charnre Smith arrived with their brand-new off-road caravan - very smart! Congratulations and we wish you many happy miles and fun with it.

Saturday evening was our usual communal braai and again - a lovely evening outside around the park braais. As usual, plenty of delicious and varied salads from our wonderful ladies and pap and sous from Alex.

As usual, Sunday arrived and most of us schlepped back home.

Being nearly half way there, Sarie and I took the gap to zip up to Drakensville for a pensioners' week. So cheap - R 640 for the entire week.

If anybody wants me to arrange a group visit later in the year (out of season) - let's talk. For those who haven't visited the resort, it really is top class - hot water indoor pool / outdoor tepid water pool / restaurant /well stocked convenience store/ outstanding ablutions. Magnificent Berg views. There are also chalets for those who prefer, but not at that super cheap pensioner price - one must book in for 7 days. Distance is about 270 kms from Durban.

Next Getaway

It is obviously difficult to plan the next getaway. I'm suggesting going to Ifafa Caravan park. I'm told that the park has been rejuvenated and is looking good. It's always been a nice park which deteriorated while Johnno was sick and later passed on. I also understand that the restaurant is running again - we've had lots of fun and laughs and excellent meals there.

I'm guessing that to maybe plan the next getaway for mid-May - to Mid-June. The dates can just be moved as necessary. Obviously this lockdown could (and probably) be extended and/or travel restrictions remain in place - who could know . ?????? . This is a wait and see situation and difficult to anticipate.

That's all from me - please keep safe and well. Hope the beer and wine stocks are still hanging in there.

Cheers

Larry

5:

Sincere condolences to Heidi Traut on the loss of her mother in mid-March.
All our thoughts and love are with you.

QUICK GLANCE GUIDE TO FREEWHEELERS GETAWAYS

DURBAN	Ifafa Caravan Park	Suggestion: Maybe mid-May or early June Cost - TBA ?
Durban	Maybe Bazley ?	??

Until Next TimeKeep 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.