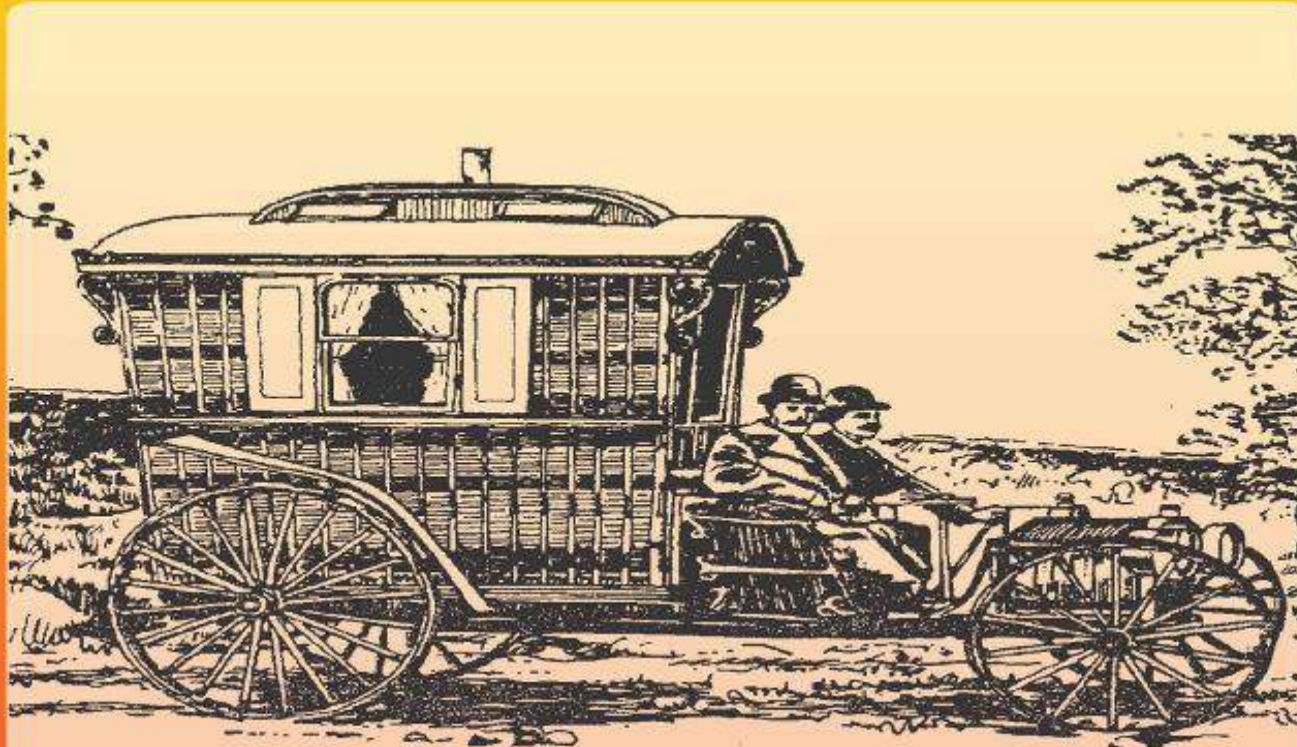




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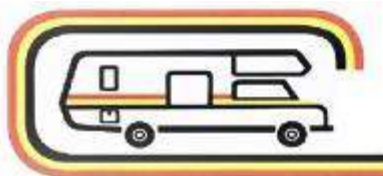
Uitgawe  
1  
van  
2021

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

### National

P.O. Box 21686, Helderkruijn, 1733

*Chairman* Tim Swanepoel  
Cell: 082 801 3859  
Email: tim.val.swan@gmail.com  
*Vice Chairman* Ari Korver  
Cell: 083 325 6129  
Email: arikorver@gmail.com

### Garden Route Region

P.O. Box 2757, George, 6530

*Chairman* Albert Theron  
Tel/Cell: 044 871 2514 / 083 385 0340  
Email: Jackie@etime.co.za  
*Secretary* Jackie Theron  
Tel/Cell: 044 871 2514 / 083 294 0606  
Email: Jackie@etime.co.za  
*Treasurer* Lampies Lamprecht  
Cell: 083 231 0462  
Email: lampies@yahoo.com



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*Treasurer* Marius Kruger  
Cell: 083 461 7353  
Email: mariuskruger111@gmail.com

### Western Cape Region

P.O. Box 3828, Durbanville, 7551

*Chairman* Ralph Jackson  
Cell: 082 807 5817  
Email: ralph@tilviseng.co.za  
*Secretary* Lourette Ellis  
Cell: 083 261 4671  
Email: lourette@melkbosch.co.za  
*Treasurer* Sandy Brits  
Cell: 079 420 8554  
Email: sandy.brits@goodlemail.com



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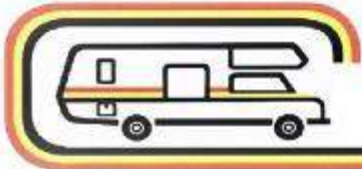
<http://motorhomeclub.co.za/>

*Secretary* Nowell Griffin  
Cell: 074 252 2522  
Email: motorhomeza@gmail.com

### Eastern Cape Region

167 Devon Road Sherwood, Port Elizabeth,  
6070

*Chairman* Pieter Didloff  
Cell: 084 951 0884  
Email: pieterdidloff@gmail.com  
*Secretary* Riana Didloff  
Cell: 084 663 3557  
Email: rianadidloff@gmail.com  
*Treasurer* Willem Knoesen  
Cell: 072 892 0627  
Email: wmknosen@cybersmart.co.za



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### **Kwazulu-Natal Region**

P.O. Box 39274, Queensburgh, 4070

*Chairman* Louis Friess

Cell: 083 409 5720

E-Mail louisfriess@gmail.com

*Secretary* Eileen Shaw

Tel/Cell: 031 705 8512 / 082 445 2406

E-Mail Eileen.s@ionline.co.za

*Treasurer* Moira Friess

Cell: 082 375 4647

E-Mail moirafriess@gmail.com

### **Mpumalanga Region**

P.O. Box 2272, Bronkhorstspuit, 1020

*Chairman* Johan Theart

Cell: 082 896 6497

E-Mail Johzel01@gmail.com

*Secretary* Charmagne de Bruyn

Cell: 082 780 3917

E-Mail Mcsa.mpumalanga@gmail.com

*Treasurer* Zelda Theart

Cell: 082 901 9656

E-Mail zeldatheart@gmail.com

### **Freestate Region**

Private Bag X12, Parys, 958

*Chairman* Willie van Heusden

Cell: 082 490 5712

E-Mail wvheusden@gpmg.co.za

*Secretary* Hannes De Milander

Tel/Cell: 056 817 1519 / 083 384 3508

E-Mail hannesdem@gmail.com

*Treasurer* Salome de Milander

Tel/Cell: 056 817 1519 / 082 402 1146

E-Mail hannesdem@gmail.com

### **Garrun Group Insurance Brokers**

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#### **General Enquiries**

Sam samantha@garrun-group.co.za

Johan Marais johan@garrun-group.co.za

### **Northvaal Region**

P.O. Box 1430, Silverton, 0127

*Chairman* Jay Bezuidenhout

Tel/Cell: 012 804 4481 / 082 781 4293

E-Mail jaybez@webmail.co.za

*Secretary* Adriana Blom

Cell: 082 447 5033

E-Mail mcsa.northvaal@gmail.com

*Treasurer* Marius Kruger

Cell: 083 461 7353

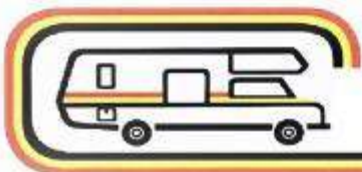
E-Mail mariuskruiger111@gmail.com

### **Magazine**

*Editor* Maryna Kruger

Cell 083 470 1444

E-Mail marynakruiger111@gmail.com



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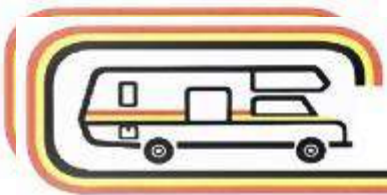
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*MCSA Magazine 2nd Edition 2019*

## EDITOR'S REPORT



There are many things 2020 will be remembered by – most of it less than pleasant, but a blessed 2021 are wished to all family and members of the club.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am your new editor, Maryna Kruger.

I am married to Marius and we have 2 kids.

Ons bly in die dorp waar al die grappies vandaan kom – Brakpan!! Sodoende val ons onder die Noordvaal streek.

We have been motorhoming since March 2014 and do not look back. Our caravan stays in the garage (for the kids to use) and we as the “old people” (according to them) are motorhoming !!

The previous editor, Ari Kolver and his wife Herma, became the first time grandparents in January 2021 to a beautiful baby boy, Milan. Baie geluk!!

Soos jul sal sien in hierdie uitgawe is daar begin met ‘n “Resepte Hoekie”. Jul is meer as welkom om vinnige, maklike kamp resepte met ons te deel wat ons kan publiseer.

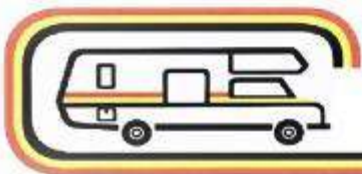
In this addition I bring you the first episode of a very interesting a story by the name of : “A dream called Meraai” which I hope everyone will enjoy.

*Motorhomer regards*

*Maryna*

*083 470 1 444*

*marynakruger111@gmail.com*



*MCSA Magazine 1st Edition 2021*

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Greetings to all our Motorhome Family, hope everybody is safe and well. This year has started off with a resurgence of Covid 19 and a mutated more infectious strain. I know of quite a few motohomers that have had covid and recovered and tragically some of our members have succumbed to the virus. Condolences to all concerned.

Due to the limited time we had to notify the resort and the uncertainty of when the Gov would lift the restrictions on social gatherings, in consultations with the regions, it was decided to postpone the National Convergence Rally at Gariep to October 2021. The now postponed March rally was fully subscribed and had a waiting list. I know it is quite a long time to October but for those of you who still intend to go to the National Convergence in October I suggest you leave your deposit with your region so as to keep your name on the list otherwise you may lose your place. I hope to see you there!!

For those of you who do not know, our long standing Editor Ari Korver has stepped down as editor of this magazine as of end 2020. Ari, a very big thank you for the amount of time and excellent work you put in to this magazine! I would like to thank Maryna Kruger for stepping up to fill Ari's big shoe's. Welcome Maryna, I am sure you will do a great job. To anyone who has anything to contribute to the magazine, please support our new Editor.

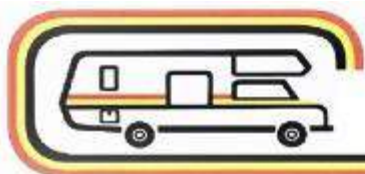
Even in these difficult times, our club continues to grow and our Facebook page has an ever increasing number of subscribers. From feedback from the Regions, everybody seems to be having a great time at the rallies and we are getting quite a few first time ralliers, this is good for the club and I encourage non rallying members to give it a try, you have nothing to lose and everything to gain.

To all of you, Stay well, Stay safe and keep on Motorhoming.

Tim Swanepoel  
*National Chairman*

### **New Dates for National Convergence Rally At Gariep**

**27 October — 1 November 2021**



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## OBITUARY

### DIRK BRITS

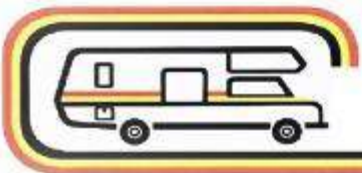
(1946/01/28—2021/01/14)

Dirk was vir baie jare werksaam in die SA Vloot se Duiktak waar hy duikers opgelei het en hy was self 'n kranige duiker. Na sy aftrede het ons in Pringlebaai gaan neskop. Ons het in Februarie 2013 na Kokanje Aftree-oord in Modimolle, Limpopo provinsie verhuis. Ons was op 14 Oktober 53 jaar getroud. Word oorleef deur sy vrou Tina, oudste dogter Liza in die Kaap en jongste dogter Mariana van Texas, VSA. Dirk sou sy 75st verjaarsdag op 28 Januarie gevier het.



Tina, Dirk en dogter Mariana

Dirk het op 15 Oktober 2020 weer 'n rugopperasie ondergaan - Eugene Marais Hospitaal in Pretoria. Hy moes van vooraf leer loop en sy hande en arms gebruik. Na 13 dae in ICU is hy na die Rehabilitasie Saal. Hy het baie goed gevorder en sou op 30 Desember ontslaan word. Twee dae voor sy ontslag het hy na sy terapie sessie kortasem geraak en het effens pyn op die bors gehad. Die dokter in beheer van die saal het hom na die Hoërsorg Kardiologiese saal oorgeplaas - moontlike hartprobleem. Gelukkig was dit nie sy hart nie, maar het hy in dié saal longontsteking opgedoen en drie dae later covid! Die laaste paar dae van sy lewe was hy aan 'n ventilator gekoppel. Hy het op 14 Januarie na sy Ewige Huis gegaan, drie maande ná sy opname in die hospital.





# OBITUARY

## DR ETIENNE ERASMUS

(1954/12/21 - 27/01/2021)

Dit was met groot hartseer dat die Vrystaatstreek op 27 Januarie 2021 die nuus ontvang het dat ons geliefde lid en “kampkapelaan” oorlede is. Hy was net 66jr oud, maar in menswees baie ouer.

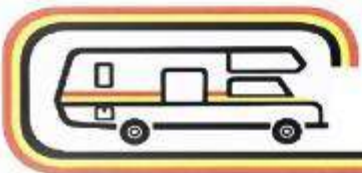
Etienne Erasmus was sedert ons stigting as nuwe streek in September 2018 `n integrale en meelewende lid. Sy entoesiasme en vriendelike geaardheid was aansteeklik en almal wat hom geken het, was bewus van sy stille krag. Etienne was groot van postuur, maar hy was groter in sy teenswoordigheid. Hy was `n geleerde man met verskeie grade, waaronder sy doktorsale graad in sielkunde. Hy het praktiseer as `n dominee, pastoor en kliniese sielkundige. Etienne was ook betrokke by Sasol en het verskeie kursusse ontwerp en aangebied wat steeds gevolg word. Ons sal hom altyd onthou as `n uitmuntende storieverteller en sy kortverhale in die tydskrif “Weg “ het getuig van sy skrywerstalent. Sy Sondagoggend boodskappe was treffend, kort en kragtig en hy het die Woord pragtig en duidelik oorgedra met toepaslike tartraaitjies wat hy uitgedeel het wat die boodskap opsom en versinnebeeld, ons koester dit in sy nagedagtenis.

Ons onthou sy eerste kamp met sy nuwe Jimny by Uithoek waar hy ook sy eerste ondervinding met die Jimny se 4x4 vermoëns beleef het. Hy het gedink hy ry rustig teen die berg uit om van bo die wêreld te bespied, maar min het hy geweet van wat voorlê. Hannes het die pad voorheen te voet geloop en was bewus van die uitdagings en het uitgeklim en die “groentjie” Etienne beduie, wat nie die pad kon sien nie, hoe hy moes ry om verby die gate en klippe te kom. Twee grootoog passasiers, Engela en Salome, het gillend die rit na bo meegemaak. Dit was die enigste keer dat Etienne iemand genomineer het vir die kakkerlakprys, ons streek se prys vir iemand wat tydens `n kamp droog maak.

Etienne en Engela was `n span en waar Etienne ons geestelik verryk het, het Engela die volkome moedersrol vervul, sy het altyd gesorg dat Etienne gemaklik is en dat die vleis perfek na sy smaak gebraai is. Dankie Engela en mag jy, die kinders en kleinkinders berusting vind met die wete dat Etienne ons almal vervul het met liefde, wysheid en kennis.

Ek sluit af; STIL MENSE, `N SEDER HET GEVAL.

Willie van Heusden  
Voorsitter, Vrystaatstreek.



*MCSA Magazine 1st Edition 2021*

# OBITUARY

## PIETER WALTERS-GEROUT

(6 September 1951 - 31 Januarie 2021)

### Bethal

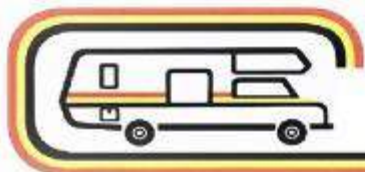
Dit is met groot leedwese dat ons afskeid neem van een van die groot geeste in die Mpumalanga Streek, Pieter Walters-Gerout.

Hy het gedien as voorsitter van die Streek van 1915 tot 1918 en was 'n voorbeeld vir almal met sy toewyding aan die Here en sy liefdevolle geduld waarmee hy sy medekampers behandel het. Die Mpumalanga lede het altyd geweet dat Pieter die nommer een persoon was vir ons Sondag kerkdienste. Hy was ons mentor, leier, vriend en leidsman.

Hy was ook een van ons gereelde kampers en het altyd saam met Marie by elke lid gaan sit en woorde van be-moediging en liefde uit gedeel veral waar dié van ons dit nodig gehad het. Ons gaan sy sonnige glimlag en liefdevolle deernis mis.

Aan Marie en die kinders ons innige meegevoel en onthou die vol-gende woorde:

***“ Our Hearts still ache with sadness, and many tears will flow.  
What it meant to lose you, no one will ever know.  
We hold you close within our hearts, and there you will remain  
To walk with us throughout our lives UNTILL WE MEET AGAIN”***



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## OBITUARY

### SUSAN VELTHUIZEN

(14 Oktober 1958 – 5 Februarie 2021)

#### Witbank

Dit is met hartseer dat ons afskeid neem van ons geliefde vriendin Susan Velthuizen. Ons gaan haar wonderlike glimlag en pragtige stem mis by al ons kampe.

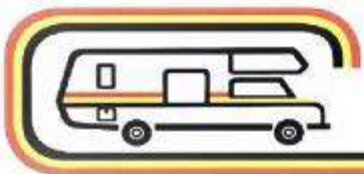
Susan los 'n groot leemte in die lewens van haar man en kinders maar ons gaan haar onthou vir haar groot hart en liefdevolle omgee.

Sy sal gemis word deur almal wie se lewens sy aangeraak het, maar ons moet onthou:

*Na elke nag is daar 'n dagbreek.*

*Na Winter, Lenteprag.*

*En oor die grense van die dood wag daar 'n blye dag,  
Want ons geliefde Susan gaan ons net 'n wyle vooruit,  
Uit 'n aardse wêreld na 'n ewige heerlikheid.*



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## NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome all new members to the Motorhome Club of South Africa, as at 31 January 2021  
Ons verwelkom alle nuwe lede tot die Motorwoonwa Klub van Suid-Afrika, soos op 31 Januarie 2021

### FREE STATE

CONRADIE, Gert & Connie  
STEVEN, Ron & Antonia  
FAUL, John & Denice

### GARDEN ROUTE

GLATZ, Uli & Mariana  
VAN DEN BERG, Linda & Alf

### KWA ZULU NATAL

ANDREWS, Leon & Aletta  
BRUKMAN, Peter & Sandra  
GEE, Peter & Carrol

### MPUMALANGA

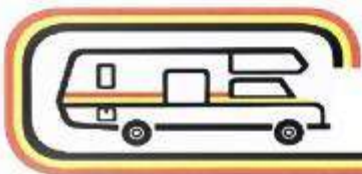
COETZER, Robbie & Eliztha

### NORTHVAAL

BOOY, Marius & Marie  
BOSCH, Philip & Mel  
GROBLER, Hannes & El  
HERD, Ken & Lynette  
PARKIN, Ronnie & Anita  
SLABBERT, Dirk & Mariette  
VAN DER WESTHUIZEN, Johan & Caren

### WESTERN CAPE

BURT, Michael & Lorraine  
DE WAAL, Pieter & Elize  
GROBLER, Bertie & Barney  
KERSLAKE, Alet & Aubrey  
LABUSCHAGNE, Pieter & Jenny  
MCDONALD, Raymond & Anette  
SMITH, Allan & Ina  
STEENKAMP, Jaco & Kim



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## INFORMATION CENTRE

Het jy al ooit hierdie embleem agter op 'n motorhome of woonwa gesien en gewonder wat dit is en wat dit beteken?

### SWAELTJIE VRIENDEKRING

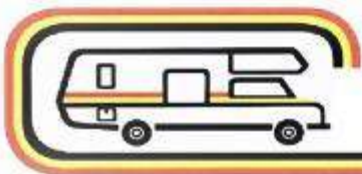
Die swaeltjie vriendekring is net dit wat die naam sê, 'n vriendekring - dit is nie 'n geregistreerde klub nie. 'n Paar persone wat lank bly (oorwinter) het, het dit in 1998 op die Eiland Spa, toe nog 'n Aventura oord en nou 'n ATKV oord, gestig na hulle besluit het die ouens wat daar lank bly, almal natuurlik pensionarisse, is net soos swaeltjies wat vlug vir die koue.

Iemand het toe 'n swaeltjie embleem ontwerp met 'n nommer. Elkeen kry dan so 'n embleem met 'n nommer.

'n Lys word saam gestel met 'n nommer vir elkeen met sy naam, telefoonnommer, adres en verjaarsdae.

Die lys word jaarliks op datum gebring en versprei onder lede saam met 'n nuus brief van aktiwiteite. Hulle reël ook, in samewerking met die oord bestuur, funksies soos bring en braai, sop aande, kerrie en rys, en kuier dan net lekker saam. Daar word gereëld ook Jukskei, Rolbal en Hoefies gespeel. Dan deel hulle ook in mekaar se lief en leed.

So, elke jaar as die kwik daal dan haak die swaeltjies hul woonwaens en slaan kamp op by Eiland Spa, Tshipise en sommige by Noord- en Suidkus van Natal. Hier oorwinter hulle maar hibeneer glad nie. Hier bly hulle tot 6 maande en verkas dan na die berge of iewers langs die kus, waar Hartenbos nou baie gewild is. Hier speel, eet, kuier en slaap hulle, en is so erg besig dat hulle huis toe moet gaan om te gaan rus.



Daar is huidiglik 314 swaeltjies by Eiland (woonwaens, motorhomes en 'n klompie wat in die rondawels bly) en 451 op Tshipise, totaal 765. Om 'n swaeltjie te wees moet mens afgetree wees, of beplan om af te tree en dit is nie nodig om 'n langblyer te wees nie. Van hierdie swaeltjies kuier ook nie meer altyd in die winter net op die Eiland of Tshipise nie, maar op ander plekke in die land, soos die Suidkus, Noordkus in Natal of Bella-Bella en nou ook Swadini. Natuurlik by oorde wat maand-pakket tariewe aanbied.

Met die ledelys in hand, as 'n mens rond reis in die land, weet jy dat jy meer as 750 pare (daar is ook enkel persone) as vriende het reg oor die land, wie jy kan kontak as jy probleme het of inligting benodig.

Ledegeld is R25 per jaar en eenmalige R75 vir die aansluitingsfooi en koste van embleme.

Paul Jansen is die voorsitter/organiseerder van die swaeltjies by **Die Eiland**

E-pos: pauljj08@gmail.com

Sel nr. 083 632 0696 Land/Fax 011 954 4951

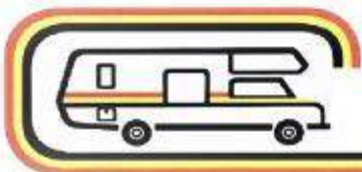
Posbus 7423, Westgate, 1734

-----  
Jan van Zyl is die voorsitter/organiseerder van die swaeltjies by **Tshipise**

E-Pos: janvleis3@gmail.com

Sel nr. 082 964 6935

Jy kan enige een van hulle kontak vir meer besonderhede.



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## REGIONAL REPORTS

### NORTHVAAL REGION

#### HARTBESPOORT BOATING CLUB (23 - 29 NOVEMBER 2020)

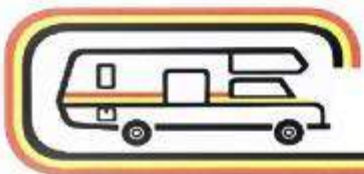
*Report by Nowell Griffin*



The rally officially only started the Monday, but by Sunday afternoon there were already a number of motorhomes. After a long period of no travel and, especially getting together with the MH family, people were eager to again get out and relax amongst friends. When we were here last year, we were blessed with heavy rain but this year was different, brilliant sun-shine and a jovial mood all round.

Teen Dinsdag het meeste mense begin arriveer. Die kamp terrein het al hoe voller geraak en die enigste probleem was dat die uitpak en kamp opslaan, ingemeng het met die lekker gesels!

Can it get any better? Great weather and even more friends to chat with. It seems that the past few months we have all been starved of conversation, but yes, it does get better. Early morning we could, if awake in time, see the hot air balloons floating so gracefully in the crisp morning air.



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The fishermen were trying their luck. None of our group caught anything significant but one of the local residents hooked a 15kg carp. What a great catch!

Thursday morning a group went off for a round of golf at Magaliespark, or should we rather say to hit balls and spend hours looking for it. What a great way to have fun and relax. Meanwhile back at camp, the chitter chatter had not subsided, in fact, it was even more than the previous days. Laughter all round was a sign that all were having fun.



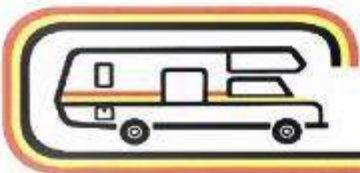
What a way to end the day with a sun-downer and beautiful sun-sets.

Tim in his wisdom had brought his boat along. (not sure why, he seemed to spend more time in the water than in the boat) I have not seen Val laugh this much for some time. Maryna in her wisdom decided to rescue Tim, and simply followed him by slipping on the ramp and also ended up in the water.

Tim did, however, finally manage to get into the boat and sail away. Great fun for all those watching the action.

Hoe vinning vlieg die tyd as 'n mens so lekker kuier. Die na-week het te vining aangebreek. Die laaste bywoners het gearriveer, en met 'n getal van 33 motorhomes teenwoordig, het die tyd vir verwelkoming aangebreek.

Don in performing his 2<sup>nd</sup> last officiating duty, welcomed all present, and especially the new members Roger & Wendy and Johan & Hulde who had joined us in October to test the ground and decided to join the club. More chatting and laughing all round.



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Saturday morning Northvaal held their AGM, with both Don and Marsha stepping down, it was time to elect a new Chairman and Secretary. Dit wil voorkom dat dit nie 'n goeie idee is om 'n rally te vermy, Jay, in sy afwesigheid, is aangestel as die nuwe Voorsitter. Adriana het oorgeneem as die nuwe sekretaresse. Marius het aangebly in sy hoedanigheid as Tesourier. Don en Marsha is bedank vir hulle werk die afgelope paar jaar.

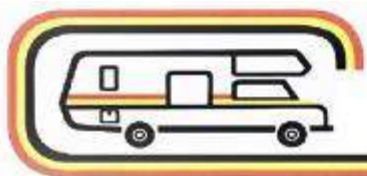


This being the year-end rally, straight after the AGM the hall was a hive of activity, with preparations being made for the Christmas function later in the afternoon. The ladies, as normal, took charge and soon had the hall decorated in the theme for the rally which was anything to do with water. The maritime flavour was a great success. Captain Hansie and Sonja were already hard at work, preparing the spit-braai and all the food that goes with it.

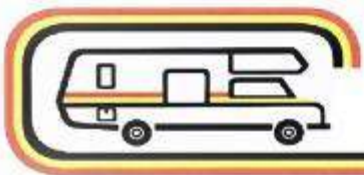
Vroegaand het die viering al begin, die saal kon vergelyk word aan 'n boot trip op die Symphonia, al die versierings was van toepassing. Toe breek die tyd aan om te eet. Die kos was van die boonste rak, genoeg om vir almal 'n tweede bord te skep.



Hansie en Sonja, Noordvaal skuld julle BIG TIME.



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All having managed to add a few kilograms, it was time to take to the dance floor and try to shake off some of those extra calories.

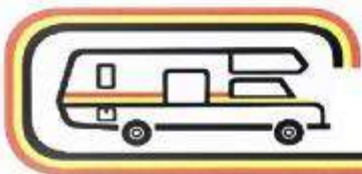
Normal dancing did not seem to do the trick for some. Line dancing was then the flavour of the evening. The lengths some go to, to lose a little weight!

Sunday morning, our final day at Harties Boat Club for 2020, started with devotions, led by Ari. Thereafter, Don stood in for Jay, the newly elected chairman, at Chairman's tea. Thanks were expressed for all who helped make the rally such a success.



Marius & Maryna were awarded for their achieving 50 rallies and Tony & Bets for achieving 125 rallies. There was no debate about the wooden spoon and it was awarded to Hansie & Sonja for the sterling food they had prepared.

Finally, Don thanked all for the support and wished the incoming members well for the future.



## **DRIE BERGE (22 - 24 January 2021)**

*Report by Sonja Otto*

We arrived at this beautiful well-kept venue with lush green grass stands and next to a strong flowing river. We received a warm welcome from the resort staff.

We had our meet and greet underneath the big trees and because it was so warm the shade was very welcome.

Jay greeted us and shared a quote from Jim Williams which was “In the 48 hours we spent together as club members bring your best side with you and leave all bad vibes at home”. We had no visitors from other regions at this rally, but a few new members graced us with their presence :

Chris & Dalene Els

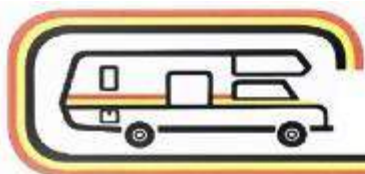
Stevie & Jackie Labuschagne

Jannie & Elanza Barnard

Dawid & Elmarie Mouton (They have been members for a while, but this was their 1st rally)

We hope this was not their last but the beginning of many more.

Jay thanked Don and Marsha for their excellent service they provided in the time they had the positions of Chairman and Secretary of the Northvaal region. A thank you also went out to Nowell, Marius and Hansie for all they do to make our rallies a success. Saturday was as Friday, a very hot and humid day and folk did not move around a lot but rather seeked the cool insides of their motorhomes, a few brave souls took a walk down to the swimming pools to cool down and others enjoyed the rugby on a big screen provided by the resort.



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The children had lots of fun in the mud pools of the resort on the canoes and even had a mud fight.



Die vure was aangesteek toe dit begin koeler raak en Hansie het 'n klompie gewillige helpers gehad en sommer gou-gou het die rook getrek en het die lede hulle tafels en stoele nader gebring vir die groot kuier. Die was so 'n heerlike aand dat van die lede tot laat nog gesels en gekuier het.

Sondag oggend het bewolk aangebreek en teen 9h00 het Jay soos gewoonlik vir ons 'n meningsvolle preek gelewer wat baie stof tot nadenke vir almal gegee het.

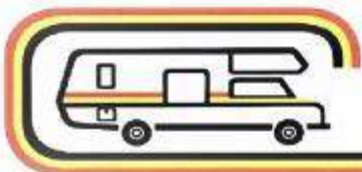
With the Chairmans tea everybody brought the delicious eats, and settled down for a last chat with fellow motorhomers before heading home again.

Jay congratulated Adriana and Hendrik Blom on the celebration of their 39<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

Ferdie and Ellen Sauer reached their 50<sup>th</sup> Rally and received their award.

Once again, we had a very well organised and pleasant rally, and the resort can be recommended.

We are looking forward to the Valentines Rally at Malonjeni with the HOB0 theme.



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## WIE ONTHOU....

Die dae wat een persoon op die dak aan die TV Antenna gedraai het en geskree het:

En Nou??

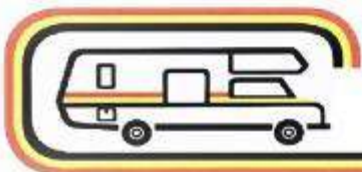


**I am not Afrikaans but I know that spanspek means a team of bacon.**

**I don't know Afrikaans but I know "Van Niekerk" means "Came from church"**



**Ek leer so baie uit my foute uit dat ek besluit het om nog te maak... Net om te kyk wat ek nog kan leer! 🤪**



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# FREE STATE REGION

## WELTEVREDE, PARYS (27 - 29 NOVEMBER 2020)

Report by Charles Barker

### Year-end Rally:

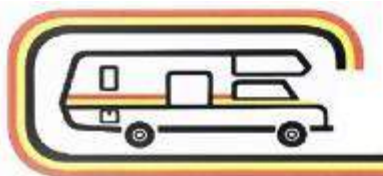
The last rally of the Free State region for 2020 started on 27 November with a buzz of anticipation for the highlight of the weekend, the year-end function on Saturday evening.



On their way to Weltevrede, several members stopped at the Dog and Fig Brewery (S26° 54.676' E27° 24.732') for samples of their various products from five different Gins to seven craft beers.

The meet and greet and communal braai were attended by the occupants of 14 motorhomes.

Die oord is, soos gewoonlik, in 'n uitstekende toestand en dit is nie vreemd dat dit amper gesien kan word as die hoofkwartier van ons streek nie.



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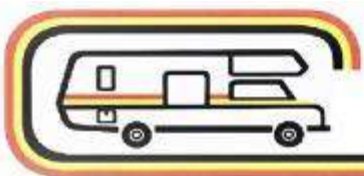




Van vroeg Saterdagoggend is daar 'n bedrywigheid in die oord se saal soos wat 'n verskeidenheid geregte voorberei word vir die aand se funksie, die saal word reggeskuif en versier. Teen 19:00 word die deure geopen en die lede ontvang met sherry. Die tafels kreun onder 'n wye verskeidenheid disse.

During dinner club members were treated on live music by the Band of the Sally Martin Park Retirement Village in Parys. Nobody could sit still with the sound of golden oldies and dancing went on till late in the evening. The younger club members enjoyed being taught new steps by their parents as well as their peers.

Baie dankie aan Flip, Coen, Pieter, Stenie, Rika en Ina



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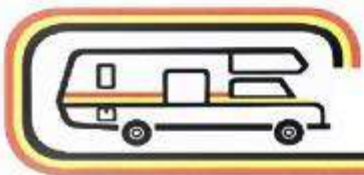
Sondaggend se oordenking word soos gewoonlik gelei deur Etienne wat 'n baie treffende boodskap bring. Min het ons geweet dat dit Dr Erasmus se laaste boodskap vir 'n streeksbyeenkoms sou wees. Etienne is op 27 Januarie 2021 oorlede.



At the Charman's tea, the Ladies collectively received the golden grail for their excellent efforts with the year-end PARTY



Thank you everybody for an enjoyable end to a weird year.



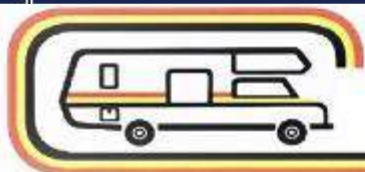
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# KZA REGION

## **BUSHWILLOW (6 - 8 November 2020)**

*Report by Kevin Baynes*

On Friday 7 motor homes set up camp at Bushwillow for the weekend rally.

Friday evening we were all welcomed and new members, Peter and Jenny de Meynier, were introduced to club members by Louis Friess our club chairman. This was followed by a Build a Burger evening and socializing amongst the members.

Martin and Maxine were duped into thinking they were going on a pleasant walk to the Karkloof Waterfall on Friday but it turned out to be a five hour hard hike. They were the only ones with transport to go to the Howick Farmers Market, however the rest of us had access to an uber service around the camp site with Danie's golf cart (mostly driven by Natalia!)

Saturday was extremely hot so most people spent their time relaxing. Ex-members, Dave and Barbara Green popped in for a visit on Saturday afternoon.

Saturday evening we had our communal bring and braai, everybody brought salads to share. This was enjoyed by all with some good campfire stories.

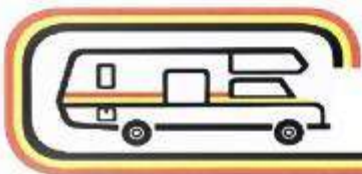
Sunday morning arrived too soon and it was time to pack up and head for home.

Thanks to everyone who attended.

**Burger build!!**



**Workers  
building burgers**



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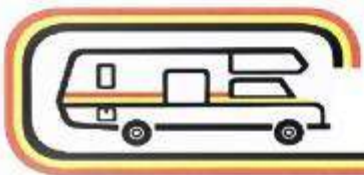


**1st Time Ralliers Peter & Jenny de Meynier**

**Chairman & Firemaster!!**



**Natalia, Danie & Kevin**



## RICHARDS BAY SKI BOAT CLUB (4 - 7 DECEMBER 2020)

*Report by Wendy Boshoff*

Friday night we had a communal braai. It was perfect weather, and Louis welcomed all and briefed us on the exciting rallies already organised for 2021! We were 10 vans, with Cathy and Chris making a special effort by having a sleep-over at a B&B nearby as Chris had a hip replacement recently.

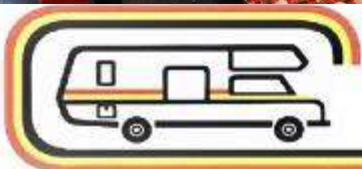
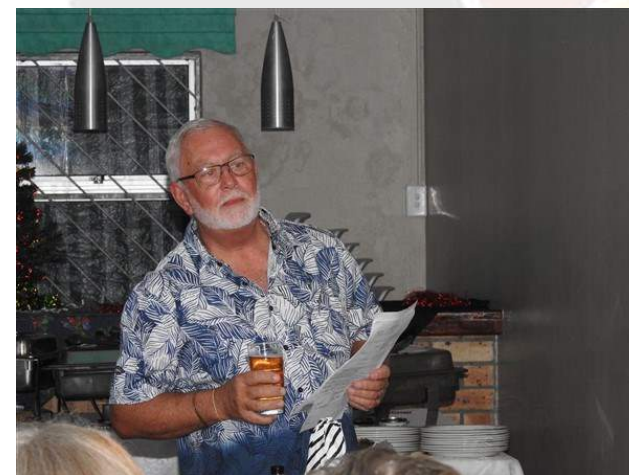
Richards Bay Ski-Boat club was the perfect venue for our Christmas Rally.

There was a competition for the best decorated Christmas van and everyone had their lights switched on, giving it a great festive atmosphere!

Saturday it rained most of the time during the day and then we helped Moira and Louis in the afternoon to set up for the Christmas Event. The ladies practised pole dancing and we were all set for a gorgeous evening!!



Rosemary was Father Christmas and Wendy and Johan were the photographers for the evening.



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Everyone was welcomed by having their photos taken in a specially made photo frame (thank you Louis), with and without Father Christmas, wearing their masks, as there was a competition for the most beautiful mask too!

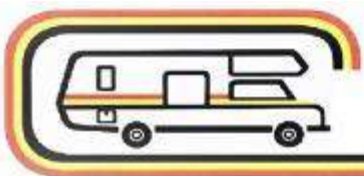
Presents were handed out by Father Christmas and then we played a very exciting game passing the presents to the left, to the right and across the tables!! After much banter and laughter, we all eventually had our prezzies!!

The buffet dinner was absolutely delish and there was so much food left over, that we were presented with a "go to" bag for the next day! Porky's Richards Bay was the caterer - definitely to be recommended, organised by Danie, our convenor.

Thero and Natalia each won the competition for the best mask and Johan and Wendy for the best decorated van.

Sunday afternoon we went on a very interesting boat cruise around Richards Bay Harbour, having loads of fun.

Monday most vans left after a lovely weekend, all happy and content - looking forward to enjoying the rest of the Festive Season with their family and friends.



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Jannie vra sy pa op die veiling waarom hy eers oor die perde se boude vryf voor hy hulle koop.

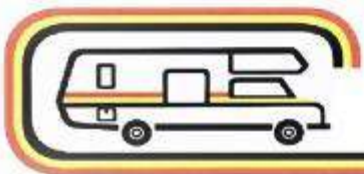
Pa: "Ek maak seker die perd is in 'n goeie kondisie, my seun."

Jannie: "Pa, dan dink ek daai oom van die plaas langs ons wil vir Ma koop."

Juffrou:  
"Klas, maak 'n  
sin met  
kakkerlak."

Boetie:  
"Party mense  
het kakker luck  
as ander"...

**You know how they  
throw the ball into the  
crowd after they win  
the game? That's not  
allowed in bowling.  
I know that now.**



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# EASTERN CAPE REGION

## SITRUSOEWER (20 - 22 November 2020)

Our Christmas Rally took place at Sitrusoewer from 20 – 22 November 2020, a total of 15 motorhomes attended.



Vrydagaand voor die vergadering en braai het die dames 'n Kersspel opgevoer, ons het ook 'n geskenk aan Louis en Marinda oorhandig om ons te onthou in Londen.



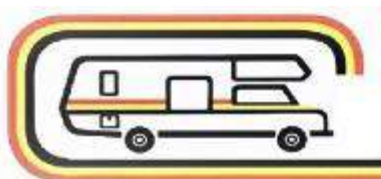
The weather was scorching hot and on Saturday a few members went floating/kayaking in the river.



Ons kersete het begin deur geskenke uit te ruil, a vaarwelliedjie aan Marinda en Louis gesing deur Glenise, Johnny en Hannes. Baie trane het gestort! Lekker geëet en gekuier tot laat die aand.



Pieter oorhandig die klub se boulé trofee aan Louis en Oom Hennie, die weners in Jeffreysbaai. Na soveel jare se probeer is hulle die kampioene!



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## THE WILLOWS (22 - 24 January 2021)

Our first rally took place at The Willows from 22 – 24 January 2021, a total of 13 motorhomes attended.

Die voorsitter, Pieter Didloff het sy 50ste verjaarsdag gevier die Vrydag en die lede bederf met 'n braai en slaie. Glenise Howard het gesorg vir die nagereg.

Saterdag is ons bederf met lekker wortelkoek van Annette Anderson wat ook verjaar het in die week.



Pieter Didloff se 50ste

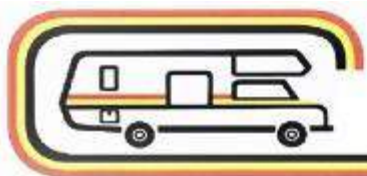
Rally tokens were handed out to members for attending 25 rallies.



Joseph and Jenny le Roux



Callie and Marlene Bosch



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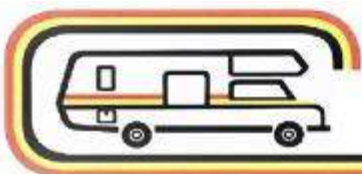


**Jonnie Meintjes, Johnny Howard en Darryl Anderson**



The weather was scorching hot on Friday, cloudy, windy on Saturday. Saturday evening it started raining right through to Sunday. Some members played lawn bowls when the rain stopped into the night using the fires as a light source. We packed up early as it was still raining on Sunday.

Our next rally will be at Gamtoos Ferry Hotel from 19 – 21 February 2021.



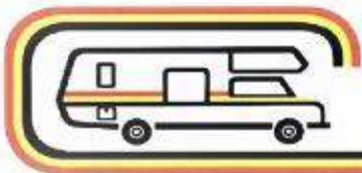
**Some of you write  
P.E.,  
cos you can't spell  
Pottylissebit**



How are you going to pronounce  
GQEBERHA !!

**As I fold my third load of  
laundry, I contemplate  
becoming a nudist.**

**Then I remember what I  
look like naked, and  
keep folding. 😂**



Een van die dae word die voëls  
se name ook seker verander.  
Dan is n Piet my vrou seker  
Sipho my squeeza

Man: "Hallo! Is dit 10111?"

Polisie: "Ja, hoe kan ons help?"

Man: "Daar is twee meisies wat  
gewelddadig baklei oor my!"

Polisie: "Ha ha ha! Nou wat is fout  
daarmee?"

Man: "Die lelike een is besig om te  
wen. Maak gou!!!!

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## WESTERN CAPE REGION

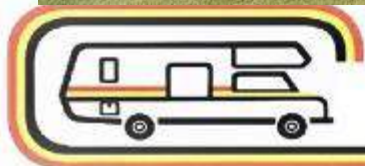
### YZERFONTEIN (November 2020)

Christmas came early at Yzerfontein with a great rally for 30 Motorhomes. Unfortunately, our numbers were limited because of the 50% occupation rule and we had a number of disappointed members. I think we all realised that early booking is essential. For those of us lucky enough to arrive on Monday, not much time was spent outside, it was really unseasonably cold. The rest of the rally was held in reasonable comfort with the assistance of the 2 new braziers that the club purchased & of course our very accomplished braai masters. Before meet & greet on Friday evening, Ralph organised a white elephant event with members selling their wares. The biggest hit were Nadeema's samoosas. Even with Almas help she found it difficult to keep up with the demand for these delicious snacks. Saturday morning dawned with a very eager group of us assembling at the Bowling Club for a tournament. Thanks for organising it Terry &

you to Rudolph from the Yzerfontein Club. I might just mention here that the team I was on won first prize. (Brag brag)



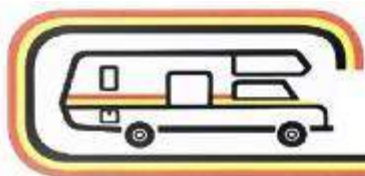
Ralph Jackson & Terry Diedericks



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There was a lot of concern about the weather for our Christmas party as it had to be held outside & the forecast wasn't too good. Out came all the gazebos, wind breakers & even Linda's table cloths were used to manufacture as much protection as possible. Happily, all went really well with a very nicely prepared cold Christmas dinner with all the trimmings and the members went to town on table decorations. The Otto's deservedly won first prize for their table decorations and who else but Brenda could win the prize for best dressed. The best decorated Motorhome prize went to, once again, Brenda.

Thanks Ralph & his team, for a very memorable rally.

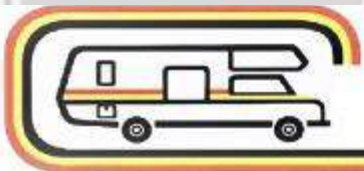




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# MPUMALANGA REGION

## HEIN SE PLAAS (22 - 25 JANUARIE 2021)

*Berig deur Anton Fourie*

Na die regering ons weer soos stout kinders gehok het was daar in sommige lede se gemoed twyfel of die eerste rally van 2021 gehou moes word. 'n Vinnige stemming is op die WhatsApp groep gehou en daar is eenparig besluit "Ons gaan rally hou".



### Wat is 'n plaas sonder 'n skaap?

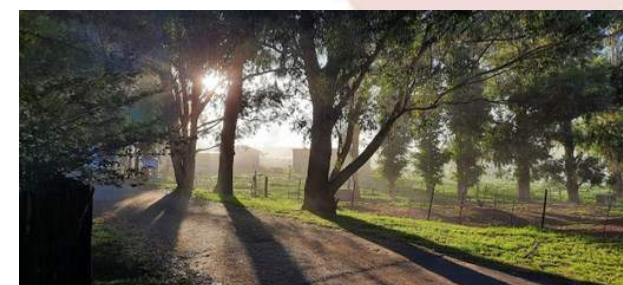
Ongelukkig het die jaar nie baie goed begin vir die Mpumalanga streek nie. Pieter Walters is in die hospitaal opgeneem met 'n melanoom in sy regterarm wat reeds twee operasies tot gevolg gehad het waarna hy boonop Covid-19 gekry het. Ernie en Susan Velthuizen is albei in die hospitaal opgeneem na Covid hulle ook betrek het – Ernie het darem sodanig herstel dat hy ontslaan is maar Susan is nog in die hospitaal. Op 'n meer positiewe noot het Anna-Marié van Heerden se chemotariepie positiewe resultate begin toon. Ons almal se gebede en beste wense word opgedra aan hulle en hul familie en geliefdes.

Donderdag 21 Januarie het vyf motorhomes al laer getrek op die lowergroen gras. Die middag het Veronica ons bederf met prego rolls en vrugteslaai en roomys ter viering van haar verjaardag. Almal was maar bekommerd oor Sikloon Eloise en hoe dit die terugrit Sondag sou beïnvloed. Ek kon nie glo hoeveel verskillende weer apps op die klomp seniors se fone is nie! Duidelik is hulle nie van plan om toe te laat dat tegnologie hulle agterlaat nie. Donderdagaand is vuur gemaak en lekker gebraai en gekuier onder die sterre.

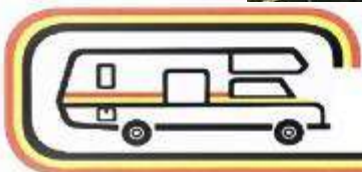
Vroeg Vrydag het nog twee motorhomes opgedaag en die gesels en kuier is voortgesit. Eloise was weereens onder bespreking en daar is eenparig ooreengekom dat die gereelde Vrydagmiddag kenmekaar somer ook sal dien as die naweek se vergadering aangesien almal vroeg wou vertrek Sondag. Wie het in elk geval 'n "kenmekaar" nodig as ons in elk geval 'n hegte familie is? Na die laatmiddag vergadering is die vure weer aangesteek en daar is gebraai en gekuier.



Die mense gesels!



Christo vang die sonsopkoms op 23 Januarie vas...



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Saterdagoggend lig Christo en Charmagne dat hulle die hond (Moedertjie) en haar spelerige seuntjie (Killer) wat by ons aangesluit het gaan aanneem aangesien niemand kon bevestig wie hul regmatige eienaars is nie. Christo en Charmagne het Ermelo toe gery om vir hulle te gaan kos koop terwyl 'n paar mans die damme gaan inspekteer het om te kyk of hengel 'n sinvolle opsie is – wat dit toe nie was nie.

Speletjies en ander breinknopers is uitgehaal en 'n intense Rummikub toernooi het begin. Wat die uitvinder van Rummikub sal maak van die aanpassings aan die reëls is 'n ope vraag. Zelda Theart het die ander vrouens lelik op hul neuse laat kyk. Ek wonder of die (vir my in elk geval!) chaotiese manier wat sy teëltjies rangskik nie iets met haar sukses te doen het nie? Omdat daar nie 'n Voorsitterstee sou wees na Sondag se diens nie, is die eetgoedjies wat daarvoor bedoel was uitgedeel. 'n Waatlemoen en 'n paar boksies lichis het ook in die slag gebly.

Laatmiddag het almal hul awnings afgeslaan in afwagting van Eloise se Elsa gebak het gereed en is in 'n kort tydjie verslind. Die middag se eet en nie. Die manne het 'n groot vuur gemaak en die roosters is toegepak met Paar manne het nog 'n ABF dop of twee gedrink en toe sak stilte neer...



aankoms. Teen daardie tyd was die brood wat drink het duidelik niemand se eetlus benadeel elke denkbare tipe vleis en braaibroodjies. 'n

Sondagoggend was dit duidelik dat die weer besig was om te verander – vining... Tussen koffie drink en beskuit eet het almal begin gereed maak om te vertrek. Voor die diens het Johan 'n gepaste geskenk aan Koos Koffie oorhandig as blyk van waardering vir sy en Anna-Marié se onbaatsugtige bydraes as komitee-lede – 'n groot koffiefles! Elsa het in Pieter Walters se afwesigheid 'n gepaste diens gelei wat menige klam oë veroorsaak het. Daarna is gegroet en die motorhomes is op 'n streep weg.

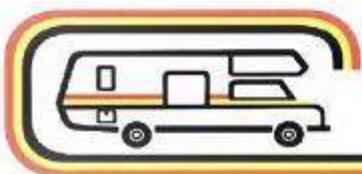
Die tydsberekening was perfek – ligte reën het begin uitsak toe ons uit die saaltjie stap en vertrek.

Terugvoer na die naweek was dat almal die rally as een van die beste nóg ervaar het. Daar was geen georganiseerde aktiwiteite – almal het saam gekuier en gesels, grappe gemaak en gelag.

**PS:** Moedertjie en Killer is reeds baie tuis en deel die De Bruyn gesin.

**PPS:** Ons het met groot leedwese verneem van Pieter Walters se afsterwe Sondagand 31 Januarie 2021.

Ons bid Marie en hul familie sterkte toe in hierdie moeilike tyd. Hy het diep spore getrap in baie van ons se lewens, en sy dienste sal altyd onthou word.



## RALLY CALENDAR FOR 2021

### GARDEN ROUTE

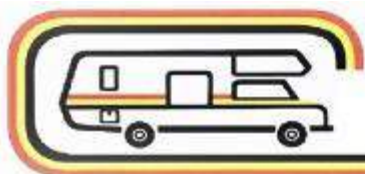
<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
11 – 14 March	Oppi Dam (Oudtshoorn)
15 – 17 April	Dwarsweg
20 – 22 May	Forever Resort (Plett)
17 – 19 June	Karoo Water (Calitzdorp)
15 – 17 July	Buffelskop (Buffels Bay)
19 – 21 August	ATKV Hartenbos
16 – 18 September	DiBiki Hartenbos
14 – 17 October	Glentana
22 – 27 October	Mini tour to Gariep
27 – October – 1 Nov	National Convergence Gariep
25 – 27 November	Lake Pleasant

### FREE STATE

19–22 March	Kedu Resort (Lindequesdrift)
17–19 April	Uithoek (Ficksburg)
14–16 May	Tava Lingwe (Parys)
13–15 August	Klipdraai (Meyerton)
11–13 September	Rietspruit Dam (Ventersdorp)
22–24 October	Maselspoort (Bloemfontein)
27 – October – 1 Nov	National Convergence Gariep
12–14 November	Weltevrede (Parys)

### NORTHVAAL

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
12 – 14 March	Weltevrede (Parys)
14 – 19 March	Mini Tour (Gariep)
16 – 18 April	Bush Inn (Springs)
14 – 16 May	Pilanesberg National Park
18 – 25 June	Mabalingwe (Bela Bela)
23 – 25 July	Buffelspoort (Rustenburg)
20 – 22 August	Dube Private Game Reserve (Brits)
17 – 19 September	Kokoriba (Brits) (AGM)
26 Sept – 3 October	Bowls rally (details to be confirmed)
22 – 24 October	Tava Lingwe (Parys)
24 – 27 October	Mini Tour (Gariep)
27 – October – 1 Nov	National Convergence Gariep
19 – 21 November	Klipdraai (Meyerton)
3 – 5 December	Nkwe (Pretoria)



## RALLY CALENDAR FOR 2021 (continue)

### WESTERN CAPE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
12 – 14 March	Stillewater (Rawsonville)
16 – 18 April	Ou Skip (Melkbosstrand)
14 – 16 May	Strandkloof, (Gansbaai)
11 – 13 June	Silwerstrand (Robertson)
28 – 30 July	Goudini Midweek (special deal for 25-30 July)
13 – 15 August	Dwarskersbos
16 – 21 August	Cedarberg Mini Tour Van Puttens Vlei, Marcuskraal & Citrusdal Baths
17 – 19 September	Montagu (AGM)
22 – 24 October	De Breede Smal (Rawsonville)
27 October – 1 Nov	National Convergence Gariep
19 – 21 November	Oostewal (Langebaan)

### KWAZULU NATAL

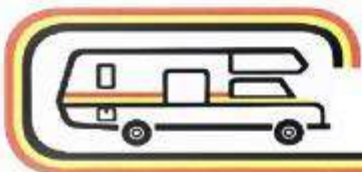
<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
12–14 March	Weenen
19–21 April	Zinkwazi Lagoon Resort (North Coast)
28–30 May	TO Strand Resort (Port Edward)
18–20 June	Sugar Loaf (St Lucia)
27 October – 1 Nov	National Convergence Gariep

### MPUMALANGA

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
05—07 March	Tamboatievreugde (Dinokeng)
14—16 May	Renosterkop Resort (Groblersdal)
04—13 June	Kruger tour
16—19 July	Sabie River Lodge (Sabie)
17—19 September	Elandskloof (Dullstroom)
27 October – 1 Nov	National Convergence Gariep
12—14 November	Lake Umuzi (Secunda)

### EASTERN CAPE

<i>Date</i>	<i>Place</i>
26 – 28 March	Van Stadens River Mouth
23 – 25 April	Cannon Rocks
21 – 23 May	Nieshoutkloof (Kirkwood)
18 – 20 June	Green Fountain (Port Alfred)
23 – 25 July	Jeffrey's Bay
20 – 22 Aug	Innikloof
24 – 26 September	Sitrusoewer (Kirkwood) (AGM)
27 October – 1 Nov	National Rally at Gariep
19 – 21 November	Pine Lodge (Christmas Rally)



## RESEPTE HOEKIE

### YSKOU E PYNAPPELBIER 🍍 🍍 🍍

- 3 PYNAPPELS MOOI SKOON GEWAS
- 5 – 6l LOUWARM WATER IN SKOON EMMER
- 3 SKOON GEWASTE 2l COKE BOTTELS
- 4 KOPPIES SUIKER (WIT OF BRUIN)
- 1 PAKKIE INSTANT GIS

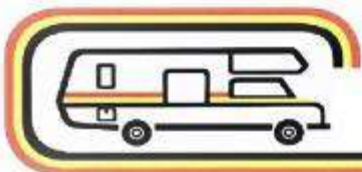
Was jou pynappels mooi skoon en sny in blokke op. Onthou om die skil van die pynappel aan te hou, want dit gee die bier sy smaak. Gooi die opgesnyde stukke pynappel in jou emmer en gooi dan 5 - 6l louwarmwater by net genoeg om 3 skoon 2l Coke bottels vol te kan maak. Gooi die 4 koppies suiker en een pakkie gis by. Die gis moet so gegooi word dat dit bo op die stukke drywende pynappel lê om die fermentasie te begin.

Laat staan die mengsel vir so halfuur en gee dan 'n goeie roer dat als mooi meng. Bedek die emmer met 'n swart plastieksak en sit die emmer in 'n warm deel van die huis neer, maar nie in direkte sonlig nie. Laat staan die brousel vir so 2 dae om die pynappelbier lekker sterk te maak. Na 2 dae van staan gooi jy die brousel deur 'n skoon moeseliendoek in 'n beker om die stukke en oorblyfsels van die pynappel uit te sif.

Dan gooi jy die pynappelbier in die 2l Coke bottels en laat staan vir nog 'n dag in 'n warm plek. Onthou net om nie die propjie heeltemal styf vas te draai nie, want die gissery kan die bottels laat ontplof.

Na 'n dag van staan en gis in die bottel kan jy dit in die yskas sit om lekker koud te word en dan net so te drink. Die pynappelbier is lekker verfrissend en het nogals 'n redelike skop aan hom, so drink maar lank en stadig daaraan. Die lockdown is nog lank nie verby nie en ons weet nie wanneer die drankwinkels weer toegemaak gaan word nie!

***Dié lekker brousel is seriously potent en hy sit vir jou uit op die grond na net twee groot glase vol. SO, DRINK VERANTWOORDELIK!!!***



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*Contact :*  
*our sales consultants*

*Charmaine*  
*082 441 5193*

*Aubrey*  
*082 480 8818*

*... Lets talk - adding value to your business*

## A DEAM CALLED "MERAAT"

### PHILLIP LENNON short BIO as at August 2018

**Creative Director for 2014 SAFTA winning "Nat Geo Taboo Africa"**, Produced by Clive Morris Productions. **Winner of the 2009 and 2014 "Media Veertjie" award for best actuality insert. Winner of the 2011 and 2012 SAB Environmentalist of the Year merit award in the broadcast category.**

**Official selection Philadelphia Film Festival 2011 "A Planet Weeps"** a documentary on the 2010 Pakistan floods.

These awards are testimony to what this self-made producer has accomplished since he matriculated from Estcourt High School in 1980.

Phillip has four Children. A son aged 36 and his eldest daughter is 24 and his twin daughters turned 21 in 2018.

His journey in film and television began in January 1983 at the SABC (South African Broadcasting Corporation) where he was trained to be a film sound operator. Phillip stayed with sound for 17 years, using the opportunity to absorb as much as possible technically. When the opportunity to direct presented it's self it was grabbed with relish, and so began a creative development that would open doors in the years ahead. This included mastering the camera and the edit.

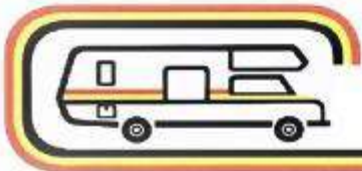
His simmering passion for the environment has allowed Phillip to pursue his true love, the wilds of Africa and the world. For many years Phillip has travelled the earth documenting the environmental disasters that have torn our fragile planet apart. He also returned to his roots and was in-house producer for three seasons with the Environmental program 5050, produced by Clive Morris Productions.

In 2016 Phillip conceptualised and produced a reality series "Die Bosbokkies" for Media24's VIA channel . The show was an immediate hit.

In May 2015 Phillip and his life partner Mariki Van Der Walt left Johannesburg and moved to the hidden gem of Leisure Bay situated on the Lower South Coast of KwaZulu Natal South Africa, which is now their home.

After nearly four decades this filmmaker continues to learn in the amazing field of television production. An on-going passion.

Selling property in Leisure Bay with his sister in their family run Real Estate company, is his latest endeavour. He is busy studying in order to write his PDE4 in Real Estate and has recently qualified in his NQF4 in real Estate.



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## A DREAM CALLED MERAAI

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*(AKA the making of a motorhome)*

The Beginning

On the 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020, my life partner of 21 years Mariki, shared a post on Face book with me. It was of an ad for an Iveco Motorhome. Her comment was “Let’s do it Phillip Lennon”.



A couple of weeks later, in hard lockdown, we celebrated Mariki’s 60<sup>th</sup>. Obviously it was a low key event with no guests. For her birthday I gave her a motorhome. Ok it was a model of a motorhome.

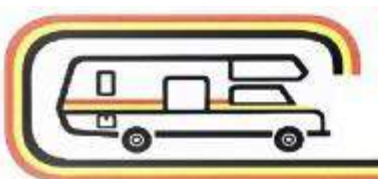
When Mariki was growing up in the Freestate, her family and friends called her Meraai. I painted the name “Meraai” on the side of Mariki’s little motorhome. And so a seed was planted.

For almost 40 years I travelled the length and breadth of South Africa filming mostly environmental issues for mainstream television. I experienced most of the beauty of South Africa alone.

This motorhome seed that was planted on the 30 May 2020, grew into a Dream. I believe in Dreams, and I believe that Dreams can come true. The dream is that I show, and share with Mariki, the splendours of Southern Africa, in a stylish vehicle, with a flushing loo. The flushing loo being the deal breaker of this dream. The Dream was called “Meraai”.

Between May and September During hard lockdown, we focused on keeping safe, surviving covid 19, surviving each other, and just surviving. Mariki survived better than I did. I tried to do some DIY and ended up severing two fingers in the process. Fortunately the Doctors at casualty were bored and they sewed them back really nicely!

In Early September 2020 , the arrival of Spring meant that our motorhome seed was now a fully fledged Dream in full bloom, that was yet to become a reality. I found an old bus hiding in the bush on a plot on the lower South Coast of KZN. It’s middle name was rust, and it had already been converted into a motorhome, well a sort of a motorhome, more a mobile squatter camp.



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I know as much about the technical side of vehicles, as I do about heart surgery. In fact I know more about heart surgery. I needed help. I contacted Braam Pretorius from East Coast Scratch and Dent, a vehicle restoring company in our area. I knew Braam from my involvement with our local Neighbourhood watch committee in Leisure Bay. Braam came with me for a second look at the bus in the bush. His face said it all. This was doable, but would be a serious challenge, and I could see he thought ek was so mal soos n haas! I was already negotiating with the bus in the bush's owner (price had dropped from R40 000 to R20 000 after Braam's visit).

Then Braam Whatsapp'd me a pic of a bus that was for sale in Johannesburg, and I fell in Love.

From this point onwards, I started to film "A Dream Called Meraai".

"A Dream Called Merrai" is on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGrag-0nEjLbQnSaZbJROpw>) and we are already 20 weeks into our rebuild. Each week We produce a short insert on our progress. I shall over the next months, summerise as best I can how our build is progressing. We are giving ourselves 18 months to two years to complete our Dream. Here is our Dream.

**GETTING MERAAI FROM JOZI TO LEISURE BAY IN KZN distance 750km.**

25 September 2020

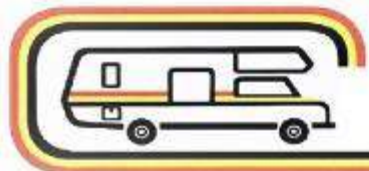


I called my son Tyrone in Cape Town, and asked him if he would be up to flying to Jozi to help me bring a bus 750 km to leisure Bay. He said he was bok! Next call was to the seller of the bus, a guy called Monty.

The conversation went along the lines: *We are coming to JHB tomorrow to fetch the bus. I just need to confirm it is in running order?*

Monty replied: *Well it was driven here so ja.*

Now one would have thought that I would have asked a few more questions. I did not. The fact that it was drivable was good enough for me.





26 September 2020

I left Leisure Bay at 5am so I would meet my son at OR Tambo at midday. I arrived in the big smoke and collected my boy on time. We then headed West towards Randfontein. An hour and a bit later we arrived at the address we were given. It was a scrap yard. There were people crawling around car wrecks like survivors of the apocalypse, searching for scrap metal to make weapons of mass destruction.

Then I saw her...MERAAI!

She had white paint on her window that shouted out "R65 000 ADE ENGINE". I had no idea what an ADE ENGINE was. ADE to me is Attention Deficit Disorder.

My Son and I climbed into Meraai. My first words were "oh sh#t".

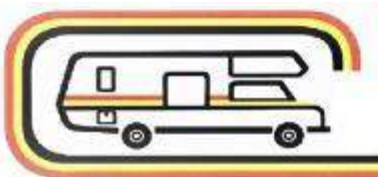
She was a mess. Torn tatty seats, a HUGE engine that seemed to take up most of the drivers cab, torn seats with springs popping out of them, the smell of diesel thick in the air.



I negotiated the R65 000 price down to R50 000. Paid Monty, and we were ready to roll.

First challenge was starting her. There was no battery! Fortunately my trusty Mahindra has a portable powerpack for when we go camping.

Battery installed, we now tried to start her. We turned the key and nothing happened. A large guy with the whitest teeth ever came up to us and said "very strong motor, very very strong".



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All fine and well but how do we start this very strong motor. Mr White teeth pointed to a lead coloured button on the dash (if you could call it a dash, cracked, big holes, wires hanging down) and told us to turn the key and then hit the button.

Meraai growled into life. It was the sweetest sound I heard in a while. It was a low throaty rumble that vibrated through ones body. After an initial puff of black smoke that Meraai belched out, I was relieved that her huge exhaust was blowing clear.

Tyrone was the designated driver and I would follow. Meraai trundled out of the scrapyard and our 750 km journey to Leisure Bay began.



After about 1 km Tyrone informed me that the brakes were dodgy and that the gear lever had come out. I said *"what do you mean, come out?"*

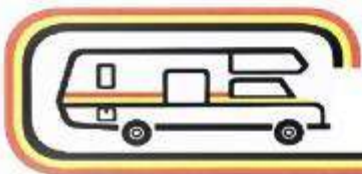
What he actually meant was that the gear lever had pulled right out of the gearbox and was in his hand. He managed to ram it back into the gearbox, find a gear, and we limped to a petrol station. We were a good 5km into our trip!

Cable ties were invented in 1956 by a Mr Logan. Mr Logan's invention now helped us secure the gear lever back into the gearbox.

Then we started to fill Meraai's fuel tank with Diesel. A lot of Diesel, diesel that tricked into the tank at the rate of around a litre a minute. After a half hour we decided we had enough fuel. We eased out into Johannesburg's Friday afternoon traffic in a bus with dodgy brakes and a gear lever tied into place with cable ties invented in 1956. By 15h00 we hit the highway. I think this is the feeling Women have once they have given birth. Huge relief.

Now it should be plan sailing all the way to Leisure bay. We rushed along Gauteng's highways at 70km's per hour. Tyrone's ears were hammered by the now full roar of Meraai's Attention Deficit Order engine.

We cleared the city and were cruising towards Heidelberg. I had checked the vehicles papers and was a bit concerned that her licence had expired a few months back. However I did some homework and due to lockdown, all licenses had been given extra time for renewals. Meraai is a big girl, weighing in at 3400Kg's. Her GVM is 5 tonnes. I also hoped that our drivers licenses were valid for her. Just in case, I made sure I had extra cash with me to refresh officials along the route. These poor guys work in the hot sun and so a cold drink is always appreciated.



We were chugging past the weigh bridge when I noticed a man in uniform running across the grass towards us. He flagged us down. He came over to me and asked why had we not taken the weigh bridge lane as this vehicle should go in that lane. He was busy studying the license disk when Tyrone called out “*Toppie the clutch just went*”. The traffic official opened the passenger door of Meraai and peered inside. He took in the open engine, Mr Logan’s cable ties. Then with a sympathetic shake of his head he walked away. He left us there. He left us with a 3400kg lump of immovable metal.

I thought fast and decided that my Mahindra S10 would tow Meraai the remaining 680 km’s to Leisure Bay.

As I pulled off I realised it would be a miracle if we arrived in Leisure Bay with my Mahindra’s clutch intact. I crawled up the long hill towards the toll just outside of Heidelberg. Paid toll for my vehicle , plus Meraai. As we cleared the toll I had an idea and pulled over. This was the plan, I would tow Meraai to the top of an incline. There we would unhook the tow rope and give her a push, once she picked up speed, Tyrone would then ram her into gear and hopefully she would take, and we could continue our journey. I towed Meraai for about 2km’s and stopped at the top of a long down hill. Undid the tow rope and gave her a push to get her going. She was barley moving when Tyrone rammed her into gear. She belched, fired, and took off!

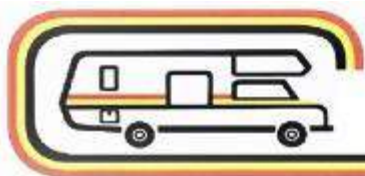
That feeling of having just given birth washed over me again!

We were back on track...until the next toll booth. At Villiers Tyrone pulled over and stalled Meraai. We hooked up the tow rope, and I towed her through the toll both. Found a downhill, and repeated the process.

The highway was packed with trucks. The bullies of the motoring world. As it grew dark these juggernauts with a gazillion wheels would sit on our tail and flash their lights. The later it got the further we descended into hell. When you travelling 70km’s an hour and a fully laden pantehnicon screams past you at 140km’s and hour, it is terrifying. We reached Van Reenen’s pass. By now Meraais breaks had packed up. I knew we would be ok as it was all down hill and if we kept in a low gear the engine compression would be our brakes.

Something I forgot to mention, Meraai’s steering wheel had a lot of play, I mean a lot of play. Like almost a half revolution before she would respond. Any normal human would have called this a day due to the risk. Tyrone and I had a brief pow wow, and decided to push on as far as we could. It was now around 22h00. My son works as a rigger on offshore wind farms and oil rigs. He is a strong guy. Meraai gave him the workout of his life. With the Angels informed, we headed down Van Reenen. The trucks were relentless. They barrelled down the pass with little or no regard for other vehicles. Exhausted we limped through the Tugela toll booth and on to the Engen 1 stop a few Km’s further on.

Tyrone was knackered, I was exhausted and stressed beyond belief. Another meeting and we decided to push on.

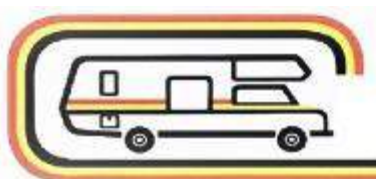


However Meraai had other plans. The vehicle body had shifted on her chassis and the front right of the bus had dropped by quite a bit. The bodywork was cutting into the right front tyre. Our drive was over.

The rest of the journey to Leisure bay is pretty boring. We were Loaded and towed from The Engen 1 Stop all the way to Leisure Bay. The R15 000 I negotiated off the purchase price of Meraai, was what it cost to tow her home. Combined that with the diesel, toll fees and Tyrone's air ticket, and you reach the princely sum of R 72 400.00, and we have not even started with our build!



In the next Edition of "Motorhomer" we get to meet Mariki, who Meraai is named after. We also meet the Team who will be doing Meraai's rebuild, and start the process of stripping and rust proofing her chassis and floor.



*Story of Meraai to be continued*

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**From the moment you join the MCSA,  
you enjoy the following privileges and services**

***Sodra u by die MKSA aansluit,  
geniet u die volgende voordele en dienste***

A quarterly newsletter covering topics of interest to motorhome owners, in which members may place free advertisements pertaining to motorhomes.

Information on all aspects of motorhome insurance, and benefits from the special low policy rates to Club members.

Meet other motorhome owners at the many social events arranged by the Club.

*'n Kwartaallikse nuusbrief wat onderwerpe van belang vir motorwoonwa-eienaars dek en waarin lede gratis kan adverteer met betrekking tot motorwoonwa-aangeleenthede.*

*Inligting op alle vlakke van motorwoonwa-versekering asook die voordele van die spesiale lae tariewe vir klublede.*

*Ontmoet ander motorwoonwa-eienaars by ons verskeie sosiale saamtrekke.*

**CLUB OBJECTIVES**

- To further and protect the interests of motorhome owners.
- To encourage the development of motorhoming.
- To establish and promote exemplary code of conduct among motorhome owners.
- To hold regular rallies and meetings.
- To co-operate with similar organisations.
- To preserve the countryside and access thereto.

**HOW THE CLUB OPERATES**

- The Club is open to motorhome owners only.
- The Club is non-profit making and is managed by a committee elected by its members.

**KLUBDOELSTELLINGS**

- Om die belange van die klublede te bevorder en te beskerm.
- Om die ontwikkeling van motorwoonwa-aktiwiteite aan te moedig.
- Om 'n voorbeeldige gedragkode vir motorwoonwa-eienaars daar te stel en aan te moedig.
- Om gereeld saamtrekke en byeenkomste te hou.
- Om met soortgelyke instansies saam te werk.
- Om die omgewing te beskerm, te benut en te geniet.

**DIE KLUB FUNKSIONEER SOOS VOLG**

- Lidmaatskap is beperk tot motorwoonwa-eienaars.
- Die klub is 'n nie-winsgewende organisasie en word bestuur deur 'n komitee wat deur lede verkies is.