



## **MX5 OWNER'S CLUB WESTERN CAPE**

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT SEPTEMBER 2012**

After some really dodgy weather in what is supposed to be Spring, Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>. September turned out to be a grand day, especially designed for open top motoring.

We met at Limnos where Bernie and Juanita Koch were proudly displaying their brand new latest model MX5 in silver grey as can be seen above. This is a truly beautiful car and we hope they have many kilometers of happy motoring.

Bernie told me that he left a message in his old car wherein he offered to pay the new owner's first year subscription to the club. Good idea Bernie.

Twenty-one members and guests attended. List attached hereto.

We left Limnos with Julian being " leader of the pack" with his co-pilot Mike driving out on the N1 up onto de Waal Drive, right at Newlands past Kirstenbosch Gardens and onto the Hout Bay Road. From there we drove up to Constantia Nek, then down into Constantia, passed Peddlers' on the Bend towards Westlake Golf Course, finally ending at "The Toad on the Road" for lunch.

This was a lovely drive through the leafy Southern Suburbs where there is plenty of road-side gardens with flowers and trees in full spate of Spring.

At the "Toad" we had a very satisfactory lunch with, once again, everyone served at the same time. Food prices are reasonable, although the wine list is slightly on the heavy side, but we had been pre-warned about this fact and most people took their own and paid corkage.

The "Toad on the Road" is one of Bob Skinstad's restaurants, the other being 'Toad in the Village', which is situated in Noordhoek Village, and as a matter of interest, belonged to my Sister when it was "Nag's Head"

When considering venues for the October run I have definitely, on good advice, ruled out the Melkbos Skerm. It only opens on Sundays if more than thirty guests book and is considered to be a bit primitive. One can, however, go "lang-arm" dancing there. I was there many years ago and the tables were, and still are, wooden cable drums.

The picnic area on the top of Tygerberg was under consideration, but after Mari and I hiked up to it last Sunday morning we decided to reject this one too. It is a very strenuous hike and the picnic tables, (eight seaters), are very far apart. If one looks up at Tygerberg it is situated at the top under the Stone Pines that are clearly visible. Although it takes some getting up to, it's well worth the effort for its 360 degree views. Whilst we were there an aeroplane came in to land at CT International and we were almost looking down onto it. We will definitely pack a picnic breakfast and a bottle of bubbly and go up there one Sunday morning. Any other punters will be welcome to join us.

Bit of Trivial Knowledge, The "Tygerberg" was named by the early Dutch settlers due to the strange vegetation feature of the hill resulting, especially at this time of the year, in a dappling not unlike the spots on a leopard (Dutch Tyger).

Under consideration, is the Guinea Fowl restaurant, (part of Saxonberg Wine Estate at the start of the R300 motorway), who will send me a menu, or perhaps the Granger Bay Hotel School, which is one of Cape Town's best kept secrets. It is right on the sea with very good food, good service and unparallel views. If we go to the Hotel School we will have to take a drive somewhere first, perhaps along the cable car road and then down into Camp's Bay via the Round House and on to Granger Bay. In any event, we will advise you timeously.

On a more serious note - our thoughts go out to Mike & Maryanne Little, as Mike has just undergone heart surgery at Vincent Palotti Hospital and had stents inserted. By the time you read this, he will have been discharged and recuperating at home. Get well soon Mike, we want to see you on the next run.

Till then, keep safe

Steve