



WESTERN CAPE MAZDA MX-5 CLUB

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: CLUB RUN 2014-05-25.

Villiersdorp is not the sleepy little *dorp* some imagine it to be – it's bucolic yet bustling with sustainable business creating much-needed employment. Property values, not only in Theewaterskloof Golf Estate but in the *dorp* itself, reflect this. And whilst Nico Rosberg and Tom Sykes were celebrating victory in Monaco and Donington, we were celebrating Africa Day 2014 in the heart of the Overberg.

Joining yours truly and Joanita on the long trip were Soné Mouton and Paul Burger, Allan and Alison Sheard, Rod Manson, Derril and Barbara Papendorf, Diane Novitzkas and Paul, Julian and Jenny Seymour, George and Annamarie Slade, Brian and Avril Roy, Charmaine and son Richard Jackson and new members Chris and Daphne Foster.

Apologies were received from Luke & Marj van Wyk (*nappy drill in winter ain't no fun!*); Peter and Carla Truter; Deon Labuschagne and Gordon Dreyer; Duncan and Rowena Mackintosh (*matric reunion*) Steve and Mari Ashton (*another great-grand-child – congrats, guys!*) Gerald and Jocelyn Poswell (*on a 4x4 trip*) Mike and Maryanne Little; David Wantling; Andrew and Sandy Duffel-Canham; Di and Neville Norton and Alex and Maureen Paterson (*Alex's Mom's 90th birthday – what an achievement!*)

The run to Villiersdorp was done in two convoys: the Northern Forces gathered at Limnos in Bellville whilst the Southern Rebels gathered at Constantia Village from where they set off. Although we originally planned to join at Peregrine Farm stall, the two sections joined much earlier at the Engen 1-Stop on the N2. And this led to some confusion: Allan Sheard was, as per arrangement, waiting patiently for us at Peregrine's. When he saw the lot of us whizzing past at warp speed, he quickly ushered Alison into the MX-5: hot-footing it via Grabouw, they joined us at Villiersdorp.

There are quite a few routes to Villiersdorp but for expediency, we decided on the N2 route via Botrivier. Returning, though, most of the Members used one of the lovely, scenic routes: I went via Franschhoek. I said this before but it's worth repeating: these Boland roads are made *just* for our cars! And, of course, my other favorite mode of transport – yet I was surprised to see so few motorcycles on the roads. Perhaps the overcast weather (with intermittent rain) had something to do with it.

Our venue for the day was the Kelkiewyn Restaurant. I'm not quite sure when Villiersdorp was established, but I see that the Graaf family donated the equivalent of some R410 Million in 1907 to establish the *dorp's* school. But most of us were more interested in the Villiersdorp Cellar: this was established in 1922. To this day, the Cellar is famous for its *Moskonfyt* (Must Jam)



Situated snugly between the Elands River and the Wine Cellar, Kelkiewyn is owned and ably run by husband and wife team Dene and Zeldia Zondagh. They offer a good menu at reasonable prices and the fare on offer is really first class. The restaurant is licensed

and offers wines from the Overberg Region with emphasis on Villiersdorp Cellar's "Slowine" range of products. Upon arriving, Dene (the big guy on the right, with Zelda) was there to welcome us. Parking at the restaurant is ample; we parked on the lawns under shady trees.

The restaurant is cozy with a welcoming fire-place: outside, on the Elands River side, is a semi-covered braai area that just begs for another (*perhaps during Spring*) visit.

The set-menu that we were able to arrange with Dene and Zelda was met with universal approval: the service by the restaurant's staff was excellent. What was remarkable was the fact that their Eskom power was lost during a storm that hit Villiersdorp the previous evening. Kelkiewyn Restaurant certainly deserve applause for their efforts!



General

- 1: All the caps ordered by Members – with the exception of Gerald Poswell and Brian Lewer – were received and handed out on Sunday. Gerald and Brian's orders will be done in June (at the old price of R55-00 each) – they were received just a tad too late for May. (*Can you believe it's almost June already?*) The caps ordered by Members on Sunday will also be supplied at the old price: the new price is only R5-00 more and was passed on to us by the suppliers. And yes, Derril – you may certainly order one cap in every available colour!
- 2: Members who still owe for caps (*we know who you are and Sannie, our Debt Collectress, knows where you live!*) should please pay the amount/s due into the Club's account – for details, please see last month's Report.
- 3: I attach (separately) an order form for the Club's apparel. (Please note that we've decided not to go ahead with the lounge shirt on P2 – it was considered too formal whilst the Denim alternative offers so much better value) To order is easy: indicate your selection on the form; calculate the amount due; pay this amount into the Club's account (see 2 above); send the order plus P.o.P. **before 15 June** to George Slade (treas@mx5wx.co.za) and we'll deliver at the next meet. Please also note that the garments come in a variety of colours: by popular demand, Members may order any garment in any available colour.
- 4: When visiting eateries, we try and negotiate a set menu: this is to save costs for our Members as well as allowing the restaurant to better plan for our visit. Sunday's menu at Kelkiewyn, for instance, if ordered *a-la-carte*, would have cost some R146-00 p.p. instead of the R130-00 p.p. that we paid as a Club. However: in most cases the Members will still have the choice of selecting from the eatery's *a-la-carte* menu should they choose – if not, we'll let Members know.
- 5: Next month's meet is tentatively planned for the 29th June: don't know yet where we'll be going but suggestions are always welcome!

Regards to all

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PS: All pics © Rod Manson – thanks, Rod!

PPS: No, I *honestly* don't know if she's related to Pietie.