

Botswana. February / March 2018. Diary

Khutse Game Reserve
Chobe Game Reserve

Thursday Feb 22nd

Left Richmond by 7.30am and drove to Klerksdorp where we camped for the night. Stopped at the Mooi River Wimpy for breakfast but, for the first time, were disappointed with the meal.

Nice to see so much greenery throughout the Free State and that the Vaal Dam looked to be full. The Klerksdorp site was much the same as on our last visit 20 months ago. The ablutions still need attention and the dam was quite low but the campsites are nice.

Friday Feb 23rd

Quite cold overnight and a very heavy dew in the morning. We left early and headed to the Ramatlabama Border post. We stopped at a shopping centre in Lichtenburg Where we bought a couple of thin blankets and a few other odds and ends from the Crazy Store and Game. Took a while to get through the South African part as they wanted details and serial number of laptops, cameras, binoculars etc. Once through the border we drove to Lobaste where we got some Botswana Pula and then drove to Motse Lodge just outside Kanye. It reminded us of the site we'd stayed at a couple of years ago at Jwaneng. It's a lodge with chalets, tents and a small area for camping. There's electric and the ablutions were clean with hot water for showers. A large marquee was being erected nearby for a wedding tomorrow.

Saturday Feb 24th

Another early start with a full day's driving. Nice to see the countryside looking so green, I think that this is only the second or third time we've been to Botswana during the summer rainy season. We stopped for fuel and food in Molepolole. We bought provision in the Spar in the centre of town and then stopped at a new larger shopping centre with a Super Spar which had a better fruit and vegetable selection. We waited until 10am for Tops to open so Kevin could get some beer and then set off for Khutse Game Reserve. After Lethlakeng there was 100km of gravel road, which was mostly in a fairly good condition, it took us just over a couple of hours to get to the entrance gate - having had to slow down for donkeys and cattle on many occasions.

At the gate we bought some firewood which we roped onto the top of the front box of the van and then drove to one of the Khutse campsites where we had a late lunch. It then took us a good 2 hours to drive the 60km to Moreswe Pan along a little used single track which was mostly through thick bush so, at this time of the year the only animals you're likely to see are on or right next to the track. There was a big shady acacia tree at the campsite where we set up camp after arriving around 4.30pm.

Lovely to be back in the bush again - must be 2 1/2 years since we were last out on our own. There are 4 campsites around the pan but only us there. We saw a few springbok and oryx out on the pan and passed a group of giraffe on our way to the campsite.

Sunday Feb 25th

We were up at 6am. I drove down to the water hole and stayed for just over an hour. Saw some birds - mostly doves - and then a black-backed jackal appeared and spent 15 minutes wandering around before settling down in the grass for a nap.

Back at the campsite we had breakfast and then went out for a drive for a couple of hours. Didn't see very much but it was lovely to be driving slowly through the bush on the lookout for animals and birds. We saw some very shy oryx and hartebeest who ran away as soon as they heard us and later a group of 5 giraffe. We stopped quite often to identify birds and I took some photos with my new

lens. We visited the other 3 campsites and agreed that our was the best as you do have a view of bits of the pan. We saw a tortoise at one site.

We spent the afternoon at the campsite keeping in the shade as it was hot and mostly sunny. Late afternoon we went for a drive around the pan and then back at camp boiled water for a shower. As I was showering it started to spit with rain and by the time I'd finished was raining quite hard. The wind then got up and we had a lot of rain driving under the canopy - we kept dry but the chairs got soaked. After 45 minutes or so the rain stopped so Kevin had a bucket wash and we then lit the fire, the wood was soaked on the outside but soon got going. Burgers for tea - yum.

In the evening the fridge started beeping and, on investigation, it looks as if the van battery isn't charging properly. Kevin plugged the van into the bakkie overnight.

Monday Feb 26th

I went for an early morning drive around the pan, saw the usual animals plus loads of storks which were feeding on the insects on the Pan.

After breakfast we packed up slowly and then made our way to the Molose Pan campsite. We saw 3 tortoises crossing the track - one was a tiny one - a family of warthog and a group of 11 giraffe. We were booked in at site 1 which is said to be the best - probably because it's the one that's nearest to the waterhole. Just 1 tree for some shade and no view at all. We set up camp and, as there was quite a strong wind, put up the 2 back panels of the awning.

After lunch we drove to the waterhole, plenty of water but no animals in sight and no real Pan, just scrubby low growth. There was evidence that elephants had been there (as I'd been told at the Entrance Gate) however the dung piles didn't look very recent so it looks like they've moved on. We drove along all the nearby tracks and then visited the other 3 campsites (none in use) before returning to our site.

Even with overcast conditions the large solar panel keeps the van fridge going and by plugging it into the bakkie overnight we should be OK but we'll need to replace the battery as soon as we can.

Were visited by a jackal during the evening, he wasn't afraid of us and hung around the edge of the camping area for a while.

Tuesday Feb 27th

We're booked into this site for 3 nights but have decided to move on tomorrow as it doesn't look like we'll see anything here. Spent a quiet day at the campsite. Kevin put a handle on the large solar panel and adjusted the leads so it's easier to use the small panel with the bakkie. I did some clothes washing. We drove out a couple of times to the waterhole and along the one short track, saw no animals at all!

Wednesday Feb 28th

I drove out first thing as we'd heard lions during the night, a bit closer than the previous night although still sounding quite a way away. At the junction with the main track there was a fresh pile of elephant dung and footprints of more than 1 elephant. More dung near the waterhole but no sign of any animals.

After breakfast we packed up and were on our way by 9am. We saw elephant prints on the main track and, on further investigation, decided they were ahead of us. We followed the track to Mahurushele Pan where we had a look at the 3 campsites there, only 1 looked like it had been used. We passed a rented bakkie and stopped to say hi. They said they were on their way to Xade, which is 220km of sandy tracks and as it was 10.30 when we saw them we reckoned they were in for a long day.

A little further on we saw 3 elephants on the track ahead of us - must have been the ones that we'd been following. When they heard the vehicle they made their way off into the bush so we didn't see them for long.

Once at Khutse Pan we had a look at several of the campsites (there are 10 of them) until we arrived at the site I'd booked, number 3. There was a vehicle and a couple of people at site 4 so we walked back to have a chat. They were a Danish couple who'd spent quite a bit of time working in Gaborone in the past and had visited Khutse on many occasions as it's the nearest park to the city. They said they'd seen a couple of elephants at the Pan - the first time they'd seen them in this Park. They were leaving after lunch so we said goodbye and went to set up our camp.

After lunch we drove to the waterhole which is at the edge of a huge grassy Pan where we could see loads of Springbok, Red Hartebeest and Oryx. There were also plenty of birds about. We then carried on following a track which gave good views of the Pan for some time and then we were back in bush for the rest of the circular trip.

Spent the rest of the afternoon at the campsite enjoying a bit of breeze which kept us cool. After a shower I went out down to the waterhole for an hour or so before sunset - the first proper sunset we've seen since we came to the Park and the warmest evening. Spent another evening watching the excellent bush TV!

Thursday March 1st

At 6.30 we both went down to the waterhole. Not much about except some birds so we drove alongside the Pan track for a few kms and then back to camp. After breakfast, washing up and washing some clothes I went back to the waterhole and was there for over an hour. Plenty of sunshine today but also a nice breeze and I was able to park with the sun behind the bakkie. Much of the time there was a giraffe that kept approaching the water hole very cautiously, stopping to look at me for a while and then, eventually having a short drink before heading away for a while, turning around and returning - she did this 3 or 4 times. Later a jackal arrived and the 2 of them were around the waterhole for quite a while. In between times there were plenty of birds to see. In the distance thought I could see a group of vultures so drove around to the other side of the Pan but couldn't see them. I decided to take the second entrance to the Khutse campsites and was glad I did as I spotted a couple of bull elephants who were resting in the shade of a tree.

It was hot and sunny all day so we kept in the shade. During the late afternoon we saw clouds building up so we took down the 2 back panels and got ready for some rain - just as well as about 4.30 the heavens opened and we had a good downpour for the best part of an hour.

Once the rain had cleared we had a lovely evening and were able to see the full moon and a few stars. Despite the rain soaking the wood we managed to get it lit and finished off our meat (fillet steak) with baked potatoes and vegetable skewers.

Friday March 2nd

Up and away by 7am. Saw that elephant had passed close to our site during the night and saw elephant footprints on the track most of the way to the entrance gate. Drove the 100km back to Lethlakeng where we filled up with fuel and then took a sandy track for another 100km rather than take the longer tar route. The track was mostly good and we were often able to do 60km/hour. Some sections needed more care and one bit looked as if no-one had been along it for some time. We passed through 1 village where we missed a turning and had to turn around but apart from that we were fine. Once back on a tar road we stopped to pump up the tyres and then carried on to Itumela Camp at Palapye where we booked in for a night and asked the guy if there was somewhere in town we could get a battery. He suggested AutoVac so we chose a site, unhitched, removed the battery from under the bed and drove back a couple of km to the shop. We were able to buy one so returned to the campsite. Just as Kevin was about to put the battery back the van tipped forward - the jockey wheel had dropped! Luckily it didn't. Took long to jack the van up and do a better job of tightening the jockey wheel. Kevin then replaced the battery which required a bit of extra work as the connections were slightly different. I had a shower - very low pressure and the water was too hot but it was OK. We then went to the bar for a drink and got chatting to a couple of guys - their wives were doing the cooking. One pair had a Conqueror Caravan and the other a trailer tent but

they were staying in the rooms overnight< They are also heading to Chobe and have booked Elephant Sands for tomorrow night so we may well see them there.

I made a prawn curry with rice and samoosas for tea. We then washed up and put tables and chairs away so that we can get an early start tomorrow as we need to do some shopping in Francistown.

Saturday March 3rd

We left before 7am and drove back through a much quieter Palapye compared to yesterday afternoon. We stopped for fuel and money and then headed north. Palapye has grown over the past few years and there are 3 new shopping centres being built.

It was overcast to start with but soon had some sunny periods. On our way we were stopped by the police at a speed trap, they reckoned that we were going at 72km/hour in a 60 zone. Kevin didn't think so but wasn't going to argue and, somehow, he managed to talk them out of giving him a fine! We stopped at a small Mall in Francistown where we shopped at Spar. We recognised the place at it had a Wimpy on the corner where we'd once had one of the worst meals ever! The road to Francistown was in good condition but between Francistown and Nata there were quite a few potholes and a few sections where we had to slow right down as you couldn't avoid all of the potholes. At Nata we saw loads more buildings than in the past and it now has a small shopping centre with a Choppies supermarket. We stopped there so I could get some bread and then at the garage to fill up. After Nata we saw a couple of lone elephants near the road.

We got to Elephant Sands round 1pm, set up camp and then had a late lunch of the chicken pieces we'd bought this morning. Soon after a couple on a bike with a sidecar arrived - we'd passed then on the road earlier.

Spent the afternoon at the campsite and then had a drink at the bar. The clouds started building up but the rain clouds skirted around us. There were a few birds around the waterhole but no animals. The fridge worked fine with the new battery.

Sunday March 4th

Packed up leisurely and were away by 8am. The hornbills, which we'd shoed off the bakkie on several occasions yesterday have torn the rubber off one of the windscreen wipers. Fortunately, it stayed dry all day.

The road from Nata to Kasane was in better condition with only a few sections with potholes. We stopped at the garage at Pandamatenga. To see if they sold windscreen wipers but no luck. We saw 7 lone elephants along the way.

We got to Senyati around 11am and set up camp at site 16 which is one of the furthest from the deck but has a view over the bush.

After lunch we stayed around camp. We saw a couple of elephants browsing across on the opposite hillside. Late afternoon we went across to the deck and almost immediately there was a heavy downpour for about an hour. We saw 3 giraffe but nothing else because the heavy rain obscured the view. Once it stopped we walked back to our site and were surprised that there were no puddles, the rain had soaked right into the sand.

There was still some drizzle from time to time so we used our braai under the shaded area.

Monday March 5th

After breakfast we moved the van over a little way so that we could put the awning up - much easier to have it there if it rains plus I can leave the cutlery hanging up outside.

We spent some time on the deck and made the acquaintance of Punky, the grey go-away bird that Lulu found last year after he fell out of his nest. She nursed him back to health and kept him out of harms way. Then last December they let him go free but he decided that he preferred people to birds! His parents were also on the deck, they try to get him to go with them but he runs for cover. He sat on our shoulders, he liked nibbling at my earrings.

WE then drove into Kasane to do some shopping and see if we can book Ihaha campsite in Chobe National Park. Driving towards Kazungula we passed a long line (several kms) of trucks waiting to be weighed at the weigh-bridge and then cross the border into Zambia. We noticed a new shopping centre in Kazungula and a little later a new one at the turn-off to Kasane. We stopped for fuel and to ask about wipers and were told to go to Motovac in town which we did and were able to get some which Kevin, eventually, managed to fit! We then drove to Chobe Entrance Gate and were able to book 3 nights at Ihaha. It took some time as the girl had to phone head office and then wait for them to ring her back...

Next, we needed to do some shopping so drove to the new Shoprite which was next to the garage we'd stopped at. Not very impressed with their range of goods but we managed to get most things and the meat looked good. There was no bottle store at this centre so we drove back to the Spar Mall in the centre of town, got what we wanted and then drove back to the campsite.

After lunch we mostly stayed at our site. Mid afternoon we saw a couple of buffalo on the opposite hillside and a little later about 8 of them had a wallow and drink in the pool below our site for a short while.

We spent an hour or so at the deck and saw elephants, zebra and impala and then went back to our site to get our tea ready. Around 6 we saw more buffalo appear and they just kept coming, there were hundreds of them making their way slowly alongside the pools stopping to eat here and there. It must have taken an hour for them all to pass by. I went to the deck, as they were heading that way, and watched them from there while Kevin lit the braai. They were spread out along the valley, an amazing sight.

After tea we walked to the deck and sat there for a while but didn't see anything.

Tuesday March 6th

When I got I my neck and back were itchy and I thought I'd been bitten by mosquitoes, however when Kevin had a look he said there were loads of spots all over the top half of my back. He put anti-bite stuff on them all which helped with the itching. After breakfast I decided to clean the van out. All the bedding went on the line and I cleaned and 'doomed' every nook and cranny before I put things back.

Later in the morning we drove to Kasane to buy a few things we'd forgotten yesterday and firstly went to the new Choppies in Kazungula. Apart from meat it was very well stocked. We then went to Chobe Safari Lodge we'd camped there several times) for lunch and had a meal in the bar - bream with chips, veg and salad - lovely fish (despite all the bones) and good value at P85. We then had a walk to the campsite which looked much as we remembered it except for the fact that it was nearly empty.

We needed a disc for our dash-cam (I'd lost the card last week when I was checking it out on the computer) and at Reception were told where to go. We got a disc and then went into the chemist nearby to ask about something for my back which was very itchy again. The girl said the bites were caused by a small black beetle, she didn't know its name, and said to use antihistamine cream.

On our way back to the campsite, on the sandy 4x4 track we came across a vehicle which had managed to get stuck. Apparently, someone had gone to get help at Senyati and as we couldn't help (we've no tow hitch on the front of the vehicle and no winch) we managed to drive around them and back to camp.

Kevin did my back and said that the 'spots' were much larger, more like blisters. He took a photo to show me what they were like! Later we walked down to the new pool for a quick dip and then went to the office to ask Lulu if she could identify what had bitten me. She thought it was a 'pissing' beetle' which must have dropped onto my back and touching the 'spots' makes it spread more. She gave me some antihistamine tablets to take. We'll get some more tomorrow.

Spent a similar evening to yesterday split between our site and the deck. In the evening there were 3 elephants at the waterhole for some time.

Wednesday March 7th

My back was quite itchy in the night but in the morning Kevin said it looked better, the blisters were smaller. We packed up slowly as only wanted to get to the chemists around 9pm. We said goodbye to Louw and Lulu before we left. We stopped at the Chemists and I spoke to the pharmacist, Marvelous, who agreed that I should take the celestamine tablets. We then drove to the Chobe National Park entrance gate, paid the park fees and headed to the Ihaha campsite, about 27km from the gate. We were actually surprised by how many animals we saw as, with the rains, they no longer need to stay near the river. For the most part they hardly move when vehicles pass as they are so used to them. We saw hippo, impala, elephants, warthog, kudu and giraffe. At the campsite we signed in at reception and then went to our site, number 9. It has a great view of the river and a nice shady tree on one side of the site. We set up camp and then had some lunch - it had taken us getting on for 2 1/2 hours to drive to Ihaha, some sections of the track were fine but there were several large puddles which needed care as you couldn't tell how deep they were and couldn't see if there were deep holes, plus of course we stopped to watch the animals from time to time.

In the afternoon we had a drive out for an hour and a half alongside the river and then back along the main track. On 3 occasions we came across elephant groups across the track and had to sit and wait for them to move. We also saw a large group of hippos, a few of them were eating next to the river and watched a family of banded mongooses for some time. A lovely drive. We also had a drive around the campsite to have a look at the other sites, they all overlook the river and most have some shade.

The ablutions are in need of some attention but the showers work OK and there was hot water. As I was walking back I saw a group of elephants a short distance away.

Kevin chatted to our 'neighbours' for some time, a young couple from Germany on their first African trip. They'd driven in from Namibia and this was their first experience of camping in the bush with no fences to keep the animals out. They had no mosquito coils or spray so we gave them some of ours.

We lit the fire and watched the sun go down. Once it was dark we were inundated with bugs anywhere where there was light so we decided that we need to eat before dusk tomorrow! Very noisy in the evening - frogs, cicadas and hippos but especially the frogs!

Thursday March 8th

There were some vervet monkeys around in the morning not a. Bit afraid of us although not so keen on Kevin's catapult - we shall have to try and make sure they don't get the chance to steal anything. After breakfast and washing up we drove out for about 3 hours. We started out along the river and then headed into the bush away from the river to see what it was like. For the most part it was very lush and thick on both sides and we hardly saw any animals so we then headed back to the 'main' track and followed it all the way to the Ngoma Gate. There were some deep dongas, caused by the rains, to negotiate and one near the river saw plenty of animal - a huge herd of buffalo, impala, zebra and waterbuck - but no elephants until we were nearly back at Ihaha.

After lunch we stayed at the campsite and didn't drive out in the afternoon as Kevin's foot was sore - he'd pulled a sting out of his toe a couple of days ago and it had swollen up quite a bit - so he took a couple of Celestamine tablets and used some cream on it.

Late afternoon we saw 5 elephants nearby having a fun time in the water.

We lit the fire earlier this evening and were able to eat without needing lights! We had rashers and then potato wedges with chakalaka - we were supposed to have some porterhouse steak but it turned out to be tough so we'll keep it and use it in a potjie another time.

We helped out an Australian couple from site 10 who asked if we had some firelighters as they'd forgotten to buy them.

Another lovely evening watching the bush TV and listening to the night sounds. To start with the cicadas were making the most noise but later the frogs took over.

Friday March 9th

Went on a drive after breakfast. This time we turned left out of the campsite and followed the river road for quite a way. We saw a couple of huge herds of buffalo which were on both sides of the track however they're so used to vehicles it's not a problem driving through the herd. We saw some very young ones, they looked only a few days old. There were, of course, plenty of hippos in the water and we saw a few crocodiles, one of them was sunning itself on a rock with its mouth open. Later we saw lots of vultures in some trees and also on what looked to be a carcass. As we got closed we could see half a dozen vultures on the back of what we took to be a dead hippo, but the skin must have been too tough for them to tear as they were just sitting there. On the drive back we saw 2 groups of elephants and sat and watched one lots splashing around in the water for ages, they looked to be really enjoying themselves.

I took lots of photos of birds with my new long lens, hopefully some decent ones as the sun was out and Kevin is good at positioning the bakkie so I can get a clear shot.

Kevin's foot is feeling better and is less swollen and my back is also getting better, I only put cream on once yesterday. We're both still taking the celestamine tablets.

It's now just gone 1pm and for the last half an hour we've heard thunder rumbling behind us so we could be in for a storm this afternoon. In fact, about 10 minutes later the wind got up so we moved everything under the awning however the rainstorm skirted around behind us.

Just after 2pm we went out for a drive following the Main Track towards Sedudu. As soon as we turned out of the campsite we saw elephants, in fact or about the next km we drove through hundreds of them! Then we came across both buffalo herds who were also on both sides of the track, amazing. We carried on along the track until we saw the vultures - probably a couple of hundred of them - and then dropped down to the River Track. There were no vultures near the carcass and we soon discovered why as we saw a lioness and then 2 cubs in the long grass next to the carcass. Unfortunately they soon disappeared from view.

We drove back to camp via the River Track seeing animals along the way including a group of giraffe, 2 elephant families, one of which were splashing about in the water, more buffalo and, of course, lots of impala.

As we drove through Ihaha to our site we passed lots of elephants browsing amongst the bushes. From our site we could see a family group in the water at the far end of the campsite and as there were still elephants near the ablutions we drove there to have a shower. Later some of the elephants came close to our site, one munched away on the tree next to our van and then the grass not 10m from where I was standing - at the opposite end of the van!

Saturday March 10th

We were away at 7.30 and on our way out decided to drop down to the river to see if the lions were still at the carcass. We got there at 8.30 but by then the temperature was already in the mid 20s, we did see a lioness briefly when she came out of the long grass for a drink but the Dutch couple who'd been at site 8 and had driven out much earlier told us they'd seen 7 lionesses and had been watching them for 1 1/2 hours - why on earth didn't we decide to pack most of our stuff away last night and make an earlier start???

It took us 2 hours to reach the Entrance Gate and we then went to the chemist in Kasane for more tablets and then to the bottle store in Kazungula before heading south to Nata. We only saw a couple of elephants along the way but also saw a group of giraffe and, later, a lone giraffe.

We stopped at Pelican Lodge just SE of Nata which has been open for about 5 years. There are 3 campsites each with their own ablutions. The Dutch couple also turned up and went to one of the other sites. After setting up camp we walked to the pool and Kevin had a swim while I checked my emails (free wifi) and we then had a drink in the bar.

We lit a fire in the evening and invited the Dutch couple to join us and had a great evening chatting to them.

Sunday March 11th

We set off at 8am and drove to Palapye, having decided to spend the night there rather than do another 300km to Gaborone. There was no-one at reception or the bar until 3pm so we had a look around the site and picked a site with plenty of shade. We were soon visited by the dog we'd seen when we stayed here on our way north and then by a very friendly cat who stayed with us all afternoon and evening.

Neither of us had a shower - all I could get was water that was too hot to stand under and all Kevin got was cold water!

Monday March 11th

We were away by 7.30am and drove south to Gaborone and then towards the Ramatlabama Border Post. About 15km from the border we were stopped by the police as Kevin had been doing 75km/hr in a 60 zone. Somehow he again managed to talk his way out of a fine. The police then told us that there were strikes in Mafekeng and suggested that we should turn back and go through Pioneer Gate Border Past instead so we turned around and headed back to Lobatse - about 40km before taking the road to the border. As we were driving back I checked the map book and discovered that, just after the border we could have taken a gravel road to avoid Mafekeng...

The difference between Botswana and South Africa soon became very evident. Between Lobaste and Ramatlabma we drove through 1 tiny village. In about the same distance between the border and Zeerust we saw loads of houses and settlements and, closer to Zeerust, plenty of shacks - we'd seen none in Botswana.

We stopped at Molemane Eye Nature Reserve which has a campsite, however the lady in the office said we needed to book in advance if we wanted to camp there. It's one of the North West Parks and looks worth a visit but you shouldn't need to book in advance. Anyway, we carried on but I couldn't see any other campsites for miles so we ended up deciding to go to Klerksdorp, another 200km, as we knew we'd be able to camp there.

Got to the site at 5.45pm - a very long day. It only took us 15 minutes to set up camp, including putting the awning up. We then had a much-needed shower, washed our clothes and then I made an omelette for our tea - we'd not had any lunch as, after Gaborone, we didn't see a single stop with some shade.

Tuesday March 12th

We travelled to Golden Gate today stopping at a Mall in Kroonstad to do a bit of shopping and ended up spending about an hour wandering round a Chequers Hyper which had an excellent fruit, veg, meat and cheese sections and a good selection of other goods as well.

Picked at shady site at the campsite and put up a couple of back panels as it was quite windy.

Opposite us a couple from Pinetown, who had arrived just before us with a caravan, started setting up their stuff - ground mats and 2 sections of awning - 4 hours later they were still at it...

We chatted to a couple from the Western Cape who were on their way to Durban. She's a South African citizen and he's from the UK. He's applied for Spousal Permanent Residence 6 years ago and is still waiting, which is ridiculous. Why is this country so reluctant to allow people with foreign income to come and live here and spend their money here???

In the evening it started raining so we were glad we'd put the awning up. Had ribs, sweetcorn and baked potatoes and then sat and watched some bush TV.

Wednesday March 13th

Initially we'd intended spending the day at Golden Gate but, in the morning, decided to drive back to Richmond as Kevin is keen to see Brian at Neil Wooldridge about replacing the front bumper with bullbars.

Stopped at The Windmill and had an excellent, good value meal there. We'll be using that rather than Mooi River in future!