

## Le Jeune trip: 15 – 19 September 2022

**4X4s:** Denis and Mary Anne Le Jeune, Rozanne, Clare and Derek

JP and Annette, Patty St Leger and Sarah Seymour

**Accommodation:** Doringbaai, Platbakkies, Mount Ceder

### ***PASSES***

***Pass*** - a navigable route through a mountain range or over a ridge.

***Poort*** - a narrow pass through mountains, usually following a river or stream.

**Olof Berg pass: 1682** Minor pass connecting the Sandveld towns of Redelinghuys with Aurora.

### **Between Garies and Springbok**

***Garieshoogte: 1970*** Just north of Garies – gains 284m, 5.7 km long.

***Brakdam se Hoogte: 1970*** Between Garies and Kamieskroon – gains 184m, 4.6 km long.

***Darters Poort: 14 km south of Garies*** – insignificant 64m climb over 3,6 km. Named after Lt Charles James Darter who was ambushed and killed nearby in 1902 at the end of the Anglo-Boer war.



**Dutch Reformed Church at Kamieskroon**

***Burke's Pass: 1970*** 24 km from Springbok – 184m gain, 4.9 km long. Latest version built 1995.

### **In and around Namaqua National Park**

***Messelpad Pass: 1871*** Altitude variance of 383m, 17 km long.

***Wildeperdehoek Pass: 1871*** Linked with Messelpad Pass. Part of the Caracal Eco Route in the Namaqua National Park. 120 years old. 4.8 km long.

***Killians Pass: 20 km from Kamieskroon.*** Short but steep in parts. ***Grootvlei Pass:*** Connects high plateau near Kamieskroon with lower coastal belt and Killians Pass.

## Leliefontein minor gravel road

**Kamiesberg Pass:** Gravel pass just outside Kamieskroon. Altitude variance of 306m, 5.5 km long. Mainly farm traffic but busy in flower season.

**Draaiklip Pass:** 7 km from Leliefontein. 96m, 1.4 km long, steep gradient at summit.

**Leliefontein Pass:** Located at the Leliefontein settlement. Altitude variance 182m, 3.9 km long. <https://mountainpassessouthafrica.co.za/find-a-pass/item/1084-leliefontein-pass-p2943.html>

**Groenkloof Pass:** Traverses a narrow valley between tall granite mountains. 5.9 km long, quite steep on southern side.

## Loeriesfontein to Bagdad Café (tarred passes)

**Koopmanskloof se Hoogte:** Closer to Loeriesfontein. 2.4 km long, 118m variance.

**Doornrivier Pass: 1880** Closer to Nieuwoudtville. 245m variance, 8.8 km long.

**Vanrhyns Pass: 1880** Originally built by Thomas Bain. Named after Petrus Benjamin Van Rhyn, a clergyman, politician and member of parliament in the old mission settlement of Troe Troe – name changed in 1881 to Vanrhynsdorp. 595m to summit, 9 km long.

## Papkuilsfontein to Mount Ceder (gravel passes)

**Botterkloof Pass: 1877** 343m descent, 11.3 km long. Near vertical, unguarded drop-offs near summit. Very tricky in rainy conditions, even 4X4 vehicles.

**Klipfonteinrant Pass: 1877** Just north of the Biedouw Valley/Wuppertal turn off.

**Hoek se Berg Pass:** Steep pass down to the Biedouw Valley.

**Kraaiberg Pass:** Over the Kraaiberg mountain which forms the southern barrier of the Biedouw Valley.

**Kouberg Pass:** Down to the Moravian settlement of Wuppertal.



**Kouberg Pass**

***Eselbank Pass:*** Connects Wuppertal with sister village of Eselbank. 10,5 km long, very steep in places, which have been concreted, Normal cars not advised.

***Grootrivierhoogte:*** Part of the route through the Southern Cederberg, connecting farms like Kromrivier, Matjiesrivier, Nuwerus and Mount Ceder, with the plateau of the Koue Bokkeveld. One of the steepest on this route.

## **Mount Ceder - home**

***Blinkberg Pass:*** 11.8 km long with two false summits and short tarred section to cope with steep gradients.

***Gydo Pass: 1848*** Built at the same time as Michells Pass by Andrew Geddes Bain with convict labour. Drops down into the Ceres valley.

***Michells'Pass: 1848*** Named after Charles Michell who planned the original route. Michell became Surveyor-General for the Cape of Good Hope Colony, designed and built several Cape passes, and influenced road construction in the Cape.

***Huguenot Tunnel (1988) / Du Toitskloof Pass*** (originally cattle only 1738, followed by others and new 1984-1988).