



Gerrie & Hettie Schoeman

Our Charter to Freedom

Life is about stories, authentic and unique. They shape our world.

Charter to Freedom is our chronicle of two ordinary people on a journey together, making stories that shape our world.

Why Charter to Freedom...well, we are great at chartering or planning – from plan A to Z – but it is freedom that often throws a spanner in our works. Now that’s a different story!

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"Slowmads"

Our Business

SOC Business Consulting

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Expertise

Business Strategies

Ecommerce Strategies

Content Creation

Social Media



The Journey

○ Middle 80's onwards

As a young married couple in the early 80's, our working lives started in the service of the Dutch Reformed Church, with Gerrie as chaplain in Tsumkwe in SWA (Namibia of today) and then as minister in the congregation, Petronella near Pretoria.

Later we ventured into other sectors of the economy as entrepreneurs and business owners that also involved a lot of traveling. Three beautiful kids with their school, sports, pets, and friends, were part of this lively journey and home schooling in a tent, Himba hut or under a tree also fostered a spirit of adventure in the three of them.

○ 2016 - 2022

In 2016 we sold up home and business, retired, and embraced a lifestyle as digital "slowmads" to support our wanderlust while being productive.

In 2020, after spending four years in sixteen countries, time on a yacht in the Caribbean and a private island in Nicaragua, we returned to South Africa in February. With a lockdown looming, we bought a car and caravan, expecting everything to be normal soon.

Little did we know that after 28 months on the road and thousands of kms later, we'd have visited friends and family, experienced interesting situations and met some wonderful resilient people in our diverse country.

○ 2022

When international borders opened in 2022, we sold our trusted Jeep and cozy home on wheels in July and made Bali in Indonesia our next destination for two months.

The soul of Bali, found in its breathtaking nature and gentle people, permeates joy and appreciation of being alive and in breathing its air, Bali has inspired us with new appreciation of this one life we all have, here and now.

We are currently in New Zealand, soaking up the love of our Kiwi family, exploring more beautiful places and pushing this business of living with gusto.