



C/O The Chairman  
14 Edgecliffe Park  
14 Bartle Road  
GILLITS  
3610

<http://durbanramblers.co.za>  
[info@durbanramblers.co.za](mailto:info@durbanramblers.co.za)

**Banking Details:**  
Nedbank Musgrave  
Account No 1138655228  
Branch Code 1301 2600

## **THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE DURBAN RAMBLERS HIKING CLUB**

**1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER: JANUARY TO MARCH: 2019**

### ***CHAIRMAN'S RAMBLINGS***

There is no end of year Honours list for the "Ramblers Hiker of the Year" to be given out. If there was, a number of our members would qualify. It is here that we say thank you to the Committee for having made this year a success. Thank you to the hike leaders on whom we depend for making hiking fun, albeit at times challenging. However, some of Committee members are stepping down as they have served three years in their respective portfolios. We appeal to members to put their names forward, and make certain of the continued success of the club. The nomination letter is included in the Magazine.

A matter that has always plagued the club is the level of fitness of our hikers. Hike leaders find it is most difficult to confront hikers who are no longer able to cope or have not reached a high enough standard of fitness. I therefore ask, for understanding, and hikers who are unsure of their fitness should contact the hike leader and enquire as to the fitness level required for that particular hike.

Our annual End of year function was held on the 2nd December. I am sure all who attended enjoyed the informal nature of the day and especially the "banter" by Colin Turner - the poet among us. Special mention needs to be made of Ilona for organizing a most successful event.

Remember that hiking introduces you to your backyard, and allows you to explore your local area and makes you appreciate the world we live in.

To those members travelling over the festive season, have a safe journey and we look forward to seeing you back hiking early in the New Year.

The Club wishes all members a great time over the festive season and a happy and healthy 2019.

Hiking is fun, keep it that way.

Regards  
Werner.

### ***EDITOR'S NOTE***

I would like to thank various members for their contributions to this edition. Alison for her Scottish Highlands Adventures, sorry I could not include all 16 pages of it into this 16 page magazine. Colin Turner also allowed me to twist his arm for the dissertations he gave at the two year end functions, the Wednesday group lunch and the Ramblers group lunch. We have a bumper issue this time.

Wishing you all a great ending to this year and an auspicious beginning to the next.

Ilona

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## COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman	Werner Vanslebrouck	084 206 7836	031 767 2969	<a href="mailto:werner.v@iafrica.com">werner.v@iafrica.com</a>
Secretary	Coleen Seath	082 735 7659		<a href="mailto:coleensea@gmail.com">coleensea@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer / Members' Database	Tina Regnard	083 289 6276	031 207 5005	<a href="mailto:regnardt@gmail.com">regnardt@gmail.com</a>
Sunday Hike Organiser	Jill Dunstone	084 780 0818		<a href="mailto:dunstone55@gmail.com">dunstone55@gmail.com</a>
Saturday Hike Organiser	Ann Olds	083 666 5630	031 767 1027	<a href="mailto:annolds2@gmail.com">annolds2@gmail.com</a>
Weekend Organiser	Biff Maggs	082 609 9684		<a href="mailto:Biffmaggs101@gmail.com">Biffmaggs101@gmail.com</a>
Publicity	Ana Barbosa	082 496 2320	031 462 6492	<a href="mailto:durbanramblers.publicity@gmail.com">durbanramblers.publicity@gmail.com</a>
Ordinary Member	Jenny Rooks	084 952 0622	031 303 5828	<a href="mailto:jen0212sa@gmail.com">jen0212sa@gmail.com</a>
Magazine	Ilona Lamprecht	076 912 9829		<a href="mailto:ilona.tangodreams@gmail.com">ilona.tangodreams@gmail.com</a>
Website Organiser	Abdullah Dada	084 478 6779	031 269 1921	<a href="mailto:dada@greenit.co.za">dada@greenit.co.za</a>

## MEMBER NEWS

### NEW MEMBERS:

Please give a warm welcome to our new Ramblers:

We have two new members:

- Cormac Kierans
- Noel McShane

And one new couple:

- Angie and James Muir.

## INFORMATION

### MAGAZINE:

Don't forget to send us any personal, email and/or postal address changes to ensure the magazine reaches you. It has come to our attention that not everyone receives the bulk emailed magazine, if you know anyone who has not received theirs, suggest they look in Spam, and if not there, send an email to Tina who will confirm email addresses.

Note: If you have been receiving the magazine by post and now want the speedier email version in full colour, advise the secretary, Coleen, and send us your email address. This helps reduce the posting costs and possible delays with getting the magazine to you.

I know a number of you have been on interesting adventures recently, we would love to read about them. Please, don't be shy, let us have your story. This is a magazine to keep our fellow Ramblers in the know, so please use this platform to share any information you may find relevant.

### WEBSITE:

The website ([www.durbanramblers.co.za](http://www.durbanramblers.co.za)) as well as the *Durban Ramblers Hiking Club* Facebook page may be viewed for information regarding the club, hikes, etc. It's an interesting experience to peruse the archives on our website. I have found them most entertaining. Biff has done a great job getting them up to date.

Should you wish to contribute photos to the Facebook page please send your contributions to Ana our Publicity person. You may also ask Ana to remove photos you would rather not be there.

## **MONEY MATTERS**

### **SUBS FOR 2019:**

According to our Constitution, subs are due after the close of the AGM. Members have until the end of April to pay their subs, thereafter he/she shall cease to be a member.

The fees remain the same for another year:

- Single Member R100
- Family R150 (excluding children 18 years or older)
- Joining Fee is R50,
- New members joining after 1<sup>st</sup> July will only pay half the annual subs.
- For past members wishing to rejoin Durban Ramblers after being absent for a year or more, a new membership application form needs to be submitted and the joining fee, in addition to the annual subs, is to be paid.

The Membership Form, which can be downloaded from our website, <http://durbanramblers.co.za/forms/>, is to be completed in full: Hike Names, Dates and Signatures of Hike Leaders, before handing or emailing them to the Secretary along with your proof of payment. If you don't have the facilities to do this from home, you can scan and send from your nearest PostNet. If you have completed three hikes and want to continue hiking with us, please do so as a member of our wonderful group, then we don't need to hassle you to sign the indemnity form for each hike.

Please pay by EFT directly into the new bank account – include your full name as reference - into the bank account referenced on the front page of this magazine. Cheques and cash both attract big bank charges, so to help reduce our banking fees, kindly endeavour to make EFT deposits.

### **HIKE DONATIONS:**

On some of the hikes hikers are asked for donations and in some cases the club makes donations on behalf of the members. Here is a breakdown of recent donations made.

<b>DONATIONS MADE ON HIKES - 4TH QUARTER 2018</b>						
<b>Date</b>	<b>DRHC</b>	<b>PUB HOL</b>	<b>Hikers (Wed)</b>	<b>Hikers (Sat)</b>	<b>Hikers (Sun)</b>	<b>Hike</b>
Monday, September 24, 2018		<b>510</b>				Springside Nature Reserve
Sunday, November 04, 2018					500	Beachwood Mangroves
Saturday, November 17, 2018				420		Springside Nature Reserve
Saturday, December 08, 2018				hike cancelled		Honey Trails, Monteseel
<b>Total</b>	<b>R 0</b>	<b>R 510</b>	<b>R 0</b>	<b>R 420</b>	<b>R 500</b>	<b>R 1,430</b>

Here are some of the correspondences regarding the various donations.

### **SPRINGSIDE NATURE RESERVE HIKE - 17 NOVEMBER 2018**

Hi Marge,

I'm delighted to inform you that the Durban Ramblers Hiking Club hike on Saturday 17 November went off well, and that a total of R420 was collected for your Association! I deposited these funds into the KHBA account this morning. (The deposit was made from my account, S McMahon, but the funds are the Club's donation!)

Once again, thank you for all you do to keep our area beautiful.

Kind regards

Sue McMahon

Hello Sue

KHBA Is so grateful for your donation – thank you so much –  
So glad you enjoyed the walk – it is such beautiful area along the track.  
Many thanks once again for your kind words which are much appreciated  
Have a wonderful end of year Christmas season

Regards

Marge

### **BEACHWOOD MANGROVES NATURE RESERVE HIKE - 05 NOVEMBER 2018**

Copy of Whatsapp message that Philip Collyer (hike leader) received from Lynne Johnson on 05 November, one of the honorary rangers at Beachwood Mangroves Nature Reserve.

### **SPRINGSIDE NATURE RESERVE HIKE - 24 SEPTEMBER 2018**

This is to acknowledge and thank you for the generous donation of R510,00 as per attached notification.

We trust your outing was enjoyable in spite of the weather. Ramblers, as well as your members individually, are also always welcome.

In appreciation,

Beryl for

HILLCREST CONSERVANCY

Some of you may remember that last year we made a contribution towards the new bridge at the Giba Conservancy. Here is a picture of the plaque acknowledging our support.



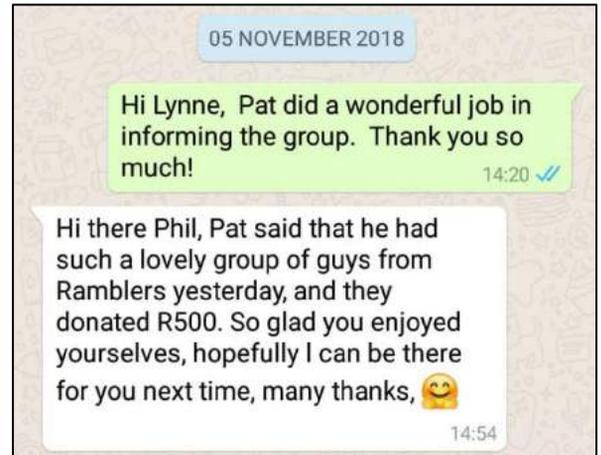
### ***RHINO CARD***

As the entrance fees for the Ezemvelo parks such as Krantz Kloof Gorge and Stainbank Nature Reserve have gone up again, now at R30 to R40 pp, it might be worth your while to look into getting a Rhino card which gives you entry into these venues. Your basic Rhino Card costs you R250 per person (under 60 yrs of age) or R230 per person (over 60 yrs of age) for a year's membership. There is no juvenile rate. There is also only one loyalty card, the Rhino Card. See <http://www.kznwildlife.com/travel-information/loyalty-club/rhino-card.html> for more information and to download the application form.

### ***HEALTH AND SAFETY ISSUES***

#### ***EMERGENCY CONTACTS:***

While hiking and rambling is usually all good fun we should also be aware that sometimes something can go amiss and we might find ourselves in a stressful situation. There is an emergency app you can download to your mobile phone from [www.mysos.co.za](http://www.mysos.co.za) which will provide you with all the emergency numbers in the area where you need it.



### **PERSONAL EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS**

***Please have your emergency contact number(s) under ICE (In Case of Emergency) in your cell phone and on the new cards issued, or a label of some sort attached to your day pack.***

***Details should consist of your name, ID number, name of medical aid and membership number (your medical aid card should be with you too) and the name/number(s) of someone to contact.***

***Emergency personnel will look for your ICE details.***

***Hospitals will not send an ambulance/paramedics if your medical aid details are not available.***

***Please carry these important details with you on each hike.***

### **PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND GEAR**

I know it feels as if your backpack already weighs a ton, but on some of our hikes it has become useful to have tough gloves on hand to make your way through the overgrown paths and sometimes to forge new paths. I took my gloves out for the Bluff hike, and then wished I had them while going through the nettles. It might also be a good idea to wear long pants if you know that some paths will be difficult to get through. Let's face it, hikes led by Werner, Jon, Margie and even one I have led involve a bit of bundu bashing.

On a hike one also needs to protect oneself from the sun and other elements.

I found this advice in a Wikipedia page: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiking\\_equipment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hiking_equipment)

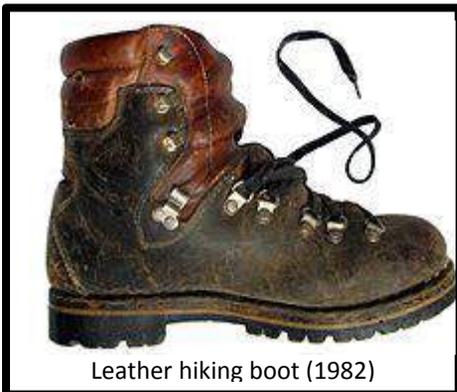
#### **Apparel**

Apparel, including clothing, shoes, hats, etc., provides insulation from heat, cold, water or fire. It shades the body and protects it from injury from thorns and insect bites.

Basic outdoor clothing materials are goose down, wool, polyester, and polyolefin, which provide similar degrees of insulation when dry. Wool and polyesters perform reasonably well for most weather conditions and provide some insulation while wet. Cotton/linen wicks moisture, good for hot/humid weather. ] Cotton, linen and down lose insulation when wet unless they are treated to be water-resistant.

Natural fabrics, such as cotton, linen and wool have higher burn temperatures, and they char instead of melting when exposed to flame. When a fabric melts onto skin it is difficult to remove, unlike a material that chars. Nomex is used for fire-resistant clothing. Wool is a good all-around fabric. Cotton and linen are best for hot weather and worst for cold, wet weather. Synthetics can be about the same as wool in the winter; many of them are fire hazards. Fabrics can be treated to help reduce their disadvantages.

Down is the lightest thermal-insulating material and compresses the most. Synthetics are next best. Wool is heavier than down and synthetics, and does not compress well. Stuff sacks and compression sacks are used for carrying insulated clothing and sleeping bags. Layered clothing allows for fine tuning of body temperature. The inner-base layer should wick away moisture. The mid-layer is used for the appropriate insulation, and the outer-shell layer provides wind and rain protection.



Leather hiking boot (1982)

For long trips, having enough clothes to change into is helpful, while washing or drying others. An extra pair of socks can be used as mittens. Shorts for swimming and fording streams are also useful. Wet clothes do not insulate as well and can

freeze while a hiker is wearing them. If a hiker falls into ice



Hiking gaiters

water, an immediate dry change of clothes from a dry bag can be lifesaving. Layered clothing helps regulate body temperature in varying weather conditions.

Gloves provide protection from blisters, abrasions, cold and hot objects, and insects. General purpose gloves are a thin glove-liners—wool may be preferred around camp fires—combined with a pair of leather gloves. Glove liners often provide enough dexterity while not fully exposing the hands to freezing conditions. Shoes with traction reduce the chance of slipping, causing an injury or death. Shoes that support the ankle may also prevent injury. Well-constructed, breathable, waterproof hiking boots are general-purpose hiking shoes. Mountaineering boots provide more specialized protection. Trainers, sandals, or moccasins are useful for easy walks and may be taken on extended hikes as backup, and to wear when fording streams and in the evening around camp. Waterproof gaiters are used in cold or wet conditions to protect the lower pants and upper part of the shoes, and reduce the amount of water, snow, and debris from entering boots and soaking into other fabrics. Brush chaps or pants for thick brush or thorns, and snake chaps or gaiters help protect the legs from snake bites.

## FIXTURES

**WEEKENDS AWAY:** Organised by Biff Maggs

**Korongo Valley Guest House 16<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Report and photos, Ilona Lamprecht.**

**Website:** [www.korongovalley.co.za](http://www.korongovalley.co.za)

When we were near the end of the pioneering Trappist Trail in March of this year we spent one night at Korongo Valley Guest Farm. (They farm guests here :) ) It was one of my favourite places on the trail and when the owners, Sue and Richard, told me about the trails they, or rather Sue, had marked in the forests and lands surrounding the property and that there was a narrow gauge train that could be called upon to pick up passengers on the farm, I decided to let Biff, our weekends away organiser, find out more.



Well, the result was that seventeen Ramblers spent the weekend in luxury, those of us in the different rooms available, and more roughly, for those that decided to camp. We were greeted by Richard and Molly the orphaned lamb, with a “you look like you need a beer” and an invitation to partake of said beverage at the charming bar. Some of us also made use of the restaurant facilities and had lunch.

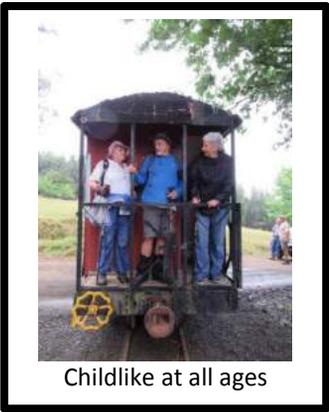
The first afternoon saw various groups explore the farm and surrounding

plantations as their fancy took them. There are many types of trees and flora as well as birds and animals to marvel at.

The first evening graced us with balmy weather and the chance to have a braai under the stars, and to catch up with Ramblers that we don’t see often and get to know the visitor, Merle’s daughter, Lisa, who decided to join us for the weekend, an interesting woman to get to know.



On the Saturday we got off to a slightly delayed start to meet said narrow gauge train, while the train driver, Julian, needed extra time to get the diesel engine going. We had hoped to be treated to the steam engine, but although we woke up to gentle rain in the morning, it was not enough to combat the dry terrain the train would go through and with all the fire fighting aircraft seconded to George and Knysna in their time of need, no chances would be taken here. A delightful trip through the forests and various tunnels proved to be a fun adventure for all. Everyone got to be a kid again. Wonderful to see Colin arrive bright and early with his friend to join us just for this trip. Colin got to ride up in the



Childlike at all ages



A wistful experience as everyone remembered train rides from their pasts

Engine on the return journey while most of us intrepid hikers hike the ten kilometres back to the farm. Sue and a group of other locals in the area, some having come back to the area just for the event, had assisted in re-marking the trail the weekend before and were there again to guide us along the way home. Country folk are lovely to get to know, and what gentlemen their men are. The weather was just right, the right amount of cloud and breeze to give us pleasant conditions to admire the fields, plantations and indigenous trees we walked through.



The train driver enjoyed being able to take his beloved engine out for a ride.

The evening was wetter than the one before, but fortunately, Korongo has ideal, a braai under the roof of the patio, with comfortable chairs and tables, and the bar just over there. Those that wanted to watch the rugby were delighted to be able to share space with the local visitors in the pub who had come to share the same experience. Those of us that didn't, could remain out of it on the patio. Win-win.



If you don't like the weather just wait fifteen minutes.



Surprises in store all along the hike back home



Magical wonderland

Most of the visiting ramblers opted for a restaurant breakfast on Sunday. It was raining on and off the whole morning and since I had another engagement that afternoon (tango in Umkomaas of all places) I had to opt out of another walk when the start was delayed. The birding ladies, Marge, Mara and Merle, had a wonderful time from the same patio of the night before, looking at birds while staying dry. Speaking of the twitchers, Merle was very excited to finally see one of the birds she had heard call many times before. Another bird ticked off the list. Korongo valley is a haven for many different kinds of birds.

than the one before, but options, and option B was

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## **UPCOMING WEEKENDS AWAY:**

**PLEASE PLAN AHEAD FOR WEEKENDS. THE VENUES NEED NUMBERS IN GOOD TIME**

### **DURBAN RAMBLERS WEEKENDS FOR 2019 FIRST QUARTER**

**Friday January 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>. Shawswood, which is in the Karkloof.** Very welcoming hosts. Large communal dining room/kitchen. Good ablutions.

Following accommodation available.

- Stone Haven - Self contained cottage R350 p.p.p.n. sharing  
Sleeps one couple in double bed and 2 children on chair beds. Bedding and towels supplied
- 6 X double rooms - R265 p.p.p.n. sharing  
4 with double beds and 2 with 2 singles - R315 p.n. – single with bedding included, but not bath towels.  
Communal ablutions and kitchen / dining area.
- Room in back garden of old homestead - R265 p.p.p.n. sharing  
Sleeps 3 in single beds, bedding included but not bath towels. (approx 25 m from ablutions)
- Backpacker section - R185 p.p.p.n. sharing  
Rooms with 3 or 4 bunk beds - R235 p.n. single  
Own bedding, pillows and bath towels required
- Camping - R140 p.p.p.n.

Saturday hike tba, Biff is hoping to get a local to take us into Karkloof Falls or forest.

Sunday hike will be to Mt Gilboa with their guide Eric. Alternate shorter hike to bottom of grey mare's tail.

**Accommodation is filling up fast. Please email [bifmaggs101@gmail.com](mailto:bifmaggs101@gmail.com) asap to secure a booking.**

### **Easter 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2019, Silverstreams**

This has been advertised previously and the bookings are closed. We are going to Silverstreams Caravan park in the Drakensberg. Unfortunately, we always have to book Easter very far in advance.

**Biff Maggs – Weekend organiser [bifmaggs101@gmail.com](mailto:bifmaggs101@gmail.com) or 082 609 9684 – uses WhatsApp.**

## **RECIPROCITY AGREEMENTS**

**Keith from Midlands Hiking Club has been kind enough to extend our members not only an invite to his day hikes, but also to their weekends away, including New Year.** You can view their schedule on their website: <http://www.gohiking.co.za/>



### **Johannesburg Hiking Club.**

We have been approached by Johannesburg Hiking Club to enter into a reciprocity agreement to allow our respective members to be able to join in hikes and weekends away paying only member prices for these events.

This means you can continue hiking even when you travel to Gauteng. What this agreement means for us is:

- Our respective members would be welcome to attend any of the day hikes, away hikes, and social events and pay for the cost of the hike/event only and not pay any additional fee for being a visitor. When visiting the club all you have to do is produce a valid membership card.
- Each club will have a section on their website informing their members and the public that we have an agreement. There would also be a link on the website giving easy access to hiking programmes.

- Members of both Johannesburg Hiking Club and Durban Ramblers Hiking Club can go on hikes with a local club that has extensive knowledge of the area being hiked.
- The security of being with a group of hikers.
- The comradeship of fellow hikers.
- The benefit of being able to select and undertake hikes from both their daily and away hikes, when visiting another city.

### **WEDNESDAY MORNING HIKES: Organised by Coleen Seath.**

The Wednesday hiking group had it's year end function at Phezulu again this year. Colin provided us with his succinct poetry on the year's events and also a quiz that most of us were surprised to get such a high score on. Thanks again to Coleen and Biff for organising a pleasant afternoon shared with the close knit family that the Wednesday group is known to be.

For those of us who wanted another review of Colin's summary, I managed to get him to hand it over:

**Looking back** at hikes that have given us much pleasure this past year,  
 enjoying the liquorice from our Marie Gurr.  
 We have done hill and dale, forest and beach  
 down valleys, up hills that were just in our reach.  
 We've complained of the heat on very hot days  
 and sometimes walked in the misty haze.  
 Waterfall hikes were some of our best  
 as we sat at half-time to give feet a rest.  
 The views from atop of a very steep hill  
 always give hikers such a very great thrill.  
 We've looked at wild flowers in the springtime  
 and our lady hikers have said they are divine.  
 Our beach walks have spread from just up and down  
 to under the sea, but we did not drown.  
 Down through the tunnel ad across to south pier,  
 we went past the Bluff at the Whaling Station to peer.  
 We always enjoyed the Giba gorge hikes,  
 thanks goodness the paths are cleared for the bikes,  
 but Werner seems hell bent on finding steep hills.  
 Is he wanting to check on our climbing skills.  
 Summerveld area is one we all like  
 with wonderful views, it's a treat of a hike.  
 There's horses and dams and flowers to see,  
 then a shady picnic spot under a tree.  
 From the Gandies home we stet off in style  
 to view Inanda dam from atop a pile  
 of a broken down home that once was a house  
 which now is not even fit for a mouse.  
 Stephen leads us on paths in Stainbank Reserve  
 then out come the skottles and breakfast we serve.  
 We park and walk in the reserve of Springside,  
 then it's off up the steep hill on the outside



Our glamorous organiser



Colin with his wonderful summations

along what's left of Gillits stone wall  
 and back to Springside via the Boy Scouts hall.  
 On the mangrove walk we watched many a crab  
 dart out of their hole a yellow leaf to grab.  
 On the Roosfontein walk we park by the jail  
 then trek up and down, over hillside and dale.  
 Margie leads us along streets to the Palmiet,  
 then back through the reserve for hamburgers to eat.  
 Tanglewood farm is a gem of a ramble,  
 as behind the waterfall we all scramble.  
 Kloof gorge paths are well known by our Ann  
 as she leads us on Wednesdays wherever she can.  
 Longshadow, Rumdoodle, the river Molweni  
 are just some of the walks of which there are plenty.  
 At Alverston Wildlife we walk near some game,  
 thank goodness we know that they are all tame.  
 The Monteseel Honey Trails are something quite new  
 and from the top of the hill there's a splendid view.  
 As we walk down to the valley of the N3  
 then it's back up the steep hill with no shade from a tree.  
 At the golf driving range we park off and go  
 past the kayak centre, but we don't have to row,  
 down the steep steps to the Mackintosh falls,  
 then up the zig zag and past lost golf balls.  
 And now I must thank Coleen very much  
 for what she does to keep in touch  
 with all of our hikers to let them know  
 the next Wednesday hike come sun, rain or snow.  
 To all of our leaders, you are a rare breed,  
 so I must thank you for the hikes that you lead.  
 Without you there would be no hikes on Wednesday  
 and that would be a very sad thing to say.  
 Now I must thank each one of you all  
 for making each one of our hikes such a ball.  
 With fun, good hiking and lots of good chatter  
 it's that what Ramblers always seek after.



Has us hanging on to his every word.

Please check details of the Wednesday Hikes with Colin Turner on 031 708 3517 or Coleen Seath on 031 202 2279 / 082 735 7659 (who will co-ordinate with leaders.) You can also find out about the Wednesday hikes on the our Facebook page posted there a few days before.

### ***SATURDAY HIKES (AFTERNOON): Organised by Ann Olds.***

- Please get to starting point by 13.45 or 13.15 on occasion (please check schedule below) in order for the hike to begin on time.
- For directions to the starting point, please PHONE the organiser between 12.00 and 12:.45 on the day of the hike, don't SMS.
- Children are welcome but check suitability of the hike with the leader.
- Please bring at least 1 litre of water, a snack for half time and a hat. It is recommended that hikers carry their own water.
- There is no need to tell the leader you will be hiking.

## **SUNDAY HIKES (FULL DAY): Organised by Jill Dunstone.**

- Please be aware that a certain level of fitness is required to do Sunday hikes. If you don't exercise regularly, or aren't an experienced walker please complete three Ramblers' Saturday afternoon hikes before joining the longer Sunday hikes.
- **Always** phone the hike leader the day before at the latest, to confirm details and let him/her know to expect you on the hike. Be mindful that the leader is also preparing for the hike on the Sunday morning.
- Please note that the meeting point and or time in the programme might change, or the hike route might change, or it might be raining and the hike cancelled therefore **you must phone the leader** or you might find yourself left out and left behind
- Please try to get to the meeting places at least 10 minutes earlier to help with arranging lifts.
- Bring the correct amount of money as change may not be available.
- It is advisable to bring at least 2 litres of water, mid-morning snack, lunch and a hat. It is recommended that hikers carry their own water
- Keep Rehidrat in your pack in case of dehydration in the hot months.
- Use tick spray.

Hikes are described as being Easy, Moderate or Strenuous and are graded from 1 to 5, as follows:

1. A flat even walk
2. A hike without big and steep inclines
3. A hike with some steep inclines - Fitness recommended
4. A hike with steep inclines and rock scrambling - Fitness essential
5. A hike with many inclines and rock scrambling - Fitness very essential

## **SATURDAY AND SUNDAY HIKING PROGRAMME 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER 2019**

check on Facebook for changes

<b>DATE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF HIKE</b>	<b>LEADER</b>	<b>GRADE</b>
<b>Sat 5 Jan</b>	<b>Nkuthu upper and Lower Falls: Red trail</b>	<b>Ann</b>	
	Waterfall end of Krantzklouf Nature Reserve: Kloof Falls Rd from Kloof, pass main picnic site. Road becomes Bridle Rd, continue to 3-way stop in Waterfall, right into King George, over speed bumps, road becomes Valley Rd. In the dip, Nkuthu picnic site on right. Meet 13.45. R40.00 entrance. Hike across river, steep paths down to each waterfall, some boulder clambering. Bring refreshments for after in the picnic site.	083 666 5630	4, strenuous, short, 6 km.
<b>Sun 6 Jan</b>	<b>Burman Bush</b>	<b>Philip Collyer</b>	
	Kick off the New Year by remembering murdered musician Steve Milliken. Burman Bush is once again safe for us to walk through, with the vagrants cleared out and security guards patrolling regularly. Park at Mitchell Park to start 07.30	082 417 0204	2- moderate 7 km
<b>Sat 12 Jan</b>	<b>Alverstone Wildlife Park.</b>	<b>Werner</b>	
	Exit 33 from M13, right over M13 into Kassier Rd, left opposite Hillcrest Pvt Hospital (Busamed) into Alverstone Rd (D435). Meet at 13.45. Entrance R20.00. Hike over grassland and through riverine forest, some game viewing. BYO braai in boma afterwards.	084 206 7836	3, moderate, 8 km
<b>Sun 13 Jan</b>	<b>Kloof Ramble</b>	<b>Jill Dunstone</b>	
	An easy, scenic walk with lots of shade. Incorporating Memorial Park and Uve Road. Finish by lunch time. Park at Tina's Hotel and stay for drinks after. Start walking 07.30	084 7800 818	2-moderate 14 km

DATE	DESCRIPTION OF HIKE	LEADER	GRADE
Sat 19 Jan	<b>Springside Nature Reserve, Springside Rd, Hillcrest</b>	<b>Steve</b>	
	Meet at 13.15 (early start as Reserve closes early). Donation of R20.00. Hike across the grasslands south of the reserve before doing a few twists and loops in this delightful Nature Reserve.	083 956 1556	2, easy to mod. 7 km.
18-20 Jan	<b>Ramblers' weekend away – Shawswood.</b>		
Sat 19 Jan	<b>Shawswood - Mt Gilboa</b>		
	Join them for a hike up Mt Gilboa to Grey Mare's Falls; alternatively to Karkloof Falls.	See Facebook closer to the time.	
Sun 20 Jan	<b>Ambers Howick</b>	Margret Kirsten	
	Join Margret Kirsten and the Shawswood weekend away team for a walk led from the Ambers on the Karkloof road outside Howick.	See Facebook closer to the time.	
Sat 26 Jan	<b>Burman Bush, Morningside.</b>	<b>Werner</b>	
	Park in Nimmo Rd between Jameson Park and Mitchel Park. (car guards) 13.45. Hike through Morningside to main gate in Burman St. Guard will accompany us as we do several loops of this gem in suburbia. Return passed some stately residences.	084 206 7836	2, moderate, longish, 8 km.
Sun 27 Jan	<b>South Coast Surprise!</b>	<b>Anne Wilson</b>	
	New recce hike from Anne. Start 07.30 from the Happy Wanderers car park (just before Pennington). Some road, some beach and some tracks (no cane). Drinks after at Happy Wanderers. Meet Glenwood Centre for lift sharing to leave latest 06.30 – R50 petrol sharing 4x up.	079 850 0206	2-moderate About 12 km
Sat 2 Feb	<b>Bluff Nature Reserve, 570 Tara Rd, Wentworth.</b>	<b>Arthur</b>	
	Park in the Reserve by 13.30, after paying entrance R20.00 at the gate. Durban's oldest Nature Reserve consisting of large wetland and adjacent forest. Bring binoculars for possible bird spotting. BYO refreshments for afterwards, before closing at 17.00.	083 482 3590	1, easy, 6 km
Sun 3 Feb	<b>Sunrise Promenade Walk</b>	<b>Jill Dunstone</b>	
	Postponed from December. Meet Sun Coast Casino car park at 05.30 and bring your cameras. Not really a hike – more a leisurely stroll to admire the view and take photographs. Breakfast back at the Wimpy at the Casino.	084 780 0818	1 – easy 10 km
Sat 9 Feb	<b>AGM. No hike</b>		
Sun 10 Feb	<b>Gromor</b>	<b>Margie Forbes</b>	
	A moderate hike through the old railway nursery, across the railway bridge and back to Inchanga. Meet Union Main, Pinetown, in time for prompt 07.30 departure, or Inchanga Station at 08.00. R30 petrol sharing from Pinetown.	073 437 6915	2-moderate 15 km
Sat 16 Feb	<b>Paradise Valley, 10 Oxford Rd, Pinetown area.</b>	<b>Ismail</b>	
	Park in Oxford Rd (car guard) to meet inside Reserve by 13.30. Entrance R30.00 Good 'beginners' hike through indigenous bush, bridges over the river, remains of early water works and views of the cascades.	083 786 6733	2, easy/mod, 6 km
Sun 17 Feb	<b>Stainbank Nature Reserve</b>	<b>Stella Wells</b>	
	Meet in the main parking area at 07.30; R40 entry fee. Hike through grassland, bush and across a few streams. Game and bird viewing – use tick repellent. Finish around lunch time – BYO	0783198979	2 – easy 10 km

DATE	DESCRIPTION OF HIKE	LEADER	GRADE
Sat 23 Feb	<b>New Germany Nature Reserve, off Otto Volek Rd, New Germany</b>	Steve	
	Park and meet in Nature Reserve by 13.30 as early closing time. Hike over grasslands and through indigenous bush. Steve may surprise us en route....	083 956 1556	3, mod. 7+ km
Sun 24 Feb	<b>Isipingo Circuit</b>	Jon Stevens	
	Explore the beaches behind the old airport – opportunities for a quick dip, so bring your cozzie. Meet at the end of Calicut Place in Merewent overlooking the Umlaas canal cutting for 07.00 start.	082 459 1522	2-moderate 15 km
Sat 2 Mar	<b>Palmiet Nature Reserve, Westville</b>	Werner	
	Off Old New Germany Rd, Westville. Meet 13.45, donation R30.00 to Conservancy. River crossings, indigenous bush and grassland; snack at cascades. Drinks afterwards at Waxy O'Connor's	084 206 7836	3, moderate. Vertigo, 7 km
Sun 3 Mar	<b>Kloof Beacon</b>	Abdullah Dada	
	Meet at the main car park for 08.00 start. R40 park fees. Hike through the forest and up to the beacon and then back along the river. Drinks at Tina's afterwards.	084 478 6778	3-moderate Vertigo 12 km
Sat 9 Mar	<b>Giba Gorge</b>	Steve	
	Meet at main parking area by 13.45. Entrance R30.00. Hike along bike trails in some shade to cascades. Refreshment on terrace afterwards.	083 956 1556	4, moderate, 8 km
Sun 10 Mar	<b>Mt Moreland Part 11</b>	Jon Stevens	
	Join Jon as he explores new routes around Mt Moreland. This is a continuation of the exploration from last year of the EMBA trails. Jon has never been on some of them, so come prepared. Meet Virginia Airport for 07.30 departure to Mt Moreland village green for 08.00. BYO drinks & snacks to celebrate safe return afterwards. Petrol sharing R15.	0824591522	unknown
Sat 16 Mar	<b>Winston Park into Stockville Valley</b>	Werner	
	Meet at Gillits Post Office at 13.45. Hike through Winston Park, into Conservancy through private property. Steep down and steep return! Drinks afterwards at Gillits Centre.	084 206 7836	4, strenuous, 8 km
Thu 21 Mar	<b>Human Rights Day</b>		
Sun 17 Mar	<b>Illovo River Trail</b>	Anna Kapp	
	Hike along the Illovo River and then along the sand to Winkle Beach. Back though cane fields to the Illovo Brewery parking – sadly, the brewery has closed. Directions: A little way after Kingsburgh, take the 133 off-ramp and turn right onto the R603. Continue until you see to Illovo Industrial sign on your left – turn left and continue all the way down to the green buildings in the dip on your left. Stop at the gate and tell the guards you are there for walking – ask them where you should park. Lift sharing from Glenwood Village at 7.30 or Illovo Brewery to start hiking at 08.15. Petrol sharing R35 (4x up)	071 427 7139	3 - moderate 18 km
Sat 23 Mar	<b>Pigeon Valley, Durban</b>	Tina	
	Park and meet across the road from Stella Sports Club (175 Helen Joseph Rd. 13.45. Street walking via Phansi Museum to explore Pigeon Valley Nature Reserve. A couple of steep hills. Drinks at nearby pub afterwards.	083 289 6276	1, easy – mod. 7 km

DATE	DESCRIPTION OF HIKE	LEADER	GRADE
Sun 24 Mar	<b>Parks of the Berea</b>	<b>Philip Collyer</b>	
	Explore the green areas of the Berea: Bulwer, Merryick Bennet, Berea, Pigeon Valley and Umbilo. Park Stella Sports Club; drinks there afterwards. Start time 08.00	082 417 0204	2-easy 14 km
Sat 30 Mar	<b>Westville Conservancy Trails</b>	<b>Linda</b>	
	Park at Westville Swimming Pools, St James Ave. 13.45. R20.00 for the Conservancy. Hike along biking trails, through tunnel, along river banks and across some grassland.	083 358 8319	2, easy – mod. 7 km
Sun 30 Mar	<b>Stockville Valley</b>	<b>Margie Forbes</b>	
	Walk to St Helier through Giba Gorge and scramble up to the pylon and Winston Park. Hike continues towards Stockville Valley, across grasslands and past interesting old homesteads before the uphill climb back to the cars. Meet and park at 7.30 at rear of new Checkers Centre, Gillits	073 437 6915	3 - Steep in parts (vertigo) ± 17 km

If you are concerned about the safety of Burman Bush, here is a press release item:

## City's Burman Bush intervention welcomed

**Exclusive in print**

THE news the City has allocated around R5-million to replace the damaged fencing around Burman Bush Nature Reserve has been welcomed by Glenashley resident, Buzz Bolton.

Speaking to *Northglen News* last week, Bolton encouraged walkers and trail runners to make use of Durban's reserves including Virginia Bush Nature Reserve and not to be deterred by criminals.

Bolton along with several members of the Riverside Trail group recently ran through Burman Bush stating it was their first run in the reserve since the murder of the former KZN philharmonic musician, Simon Milliken.

Milliken's death was the third murder at the reserve in the last four years.

The Riverside Trail group have used Burman Bush for their social runs regularly and Bolton has urged users of the reserve not to let the possible danger deter them.

"Since Simon's passing, walking and running in Burman Bush has naturally become limited. It is encouraging to hear that new and secure fencing will be erected around Burman Bush. I've heard the City have posted security personnel there and runners and walkers need to sign in and sign out. I would like for them to go one further and give the number of the security officer to all who visit the reserve.

"We recently enjoyed another run from the main entrance to the lookout platform. We are however always conscious of security and use the belief that there is safety in numbers. The yard stick rule followed is that there must be no less than five persons with the majority being males. The other bit of advice we'd offer is to stick to the trail," he said.

Bolton also urged residents to make use of Virginia Bush Nature Reserve.

Christian Dlamini (ranger for the Natural Resources Unit) and Buzz Bolton urge residents to make use of Burman Bush Nature Reserve in Morningside and not be deterred by crime in the area.



### **OTHER RAMBLERS ACTIVITIES**

#### ***End of year function held at Park Hill Bowling Club on 2 December.***

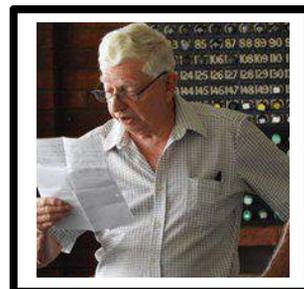
Just after our mid year committee meeting when we decided on a date for the year end function and all of us were tasked with procuring a suitable venue, I was invited by my local DA constituent to attend one of their meetings to be held at Park Hill Bowling Club, which happened to be five minutes walk from where I lived at that time, right up until the day before the event. I walked into the characterful bar to order a glass of wine to be able to sit through the meeting when I thought, I can multi-task here. By the next day I had a tentative booking for the venue and the on-site catering company, on the date we had decided upon. After everyone else in the committee had acceded that they could not come up with a better option, it was all systems go. After our success at the polo club last year, I did not want to revert to our members queuing up for

whatever was in on offer and I managed to convince BriGids Catering to see things my way. I used their menus to create a unique one for us, hoping I got everyone's dietary requirements covered, I missed one, sorry Philip. After that, I had nothing left to do. Bianca and Brigid came to the fore, even with load shedding just before the event and just about everyone was happy.

Werner had asked Colin Turner to say a few words, and true to form, he came up with yet another witty summation. I managed to get that from him too to be included here, so as not to disappoint all those that hoped they would get to have a look at it. Thank you Colin for being so wonderfully creative, I look forward to experiencing many more of your poetic dissertations:

**Reflecting on those who have served the club this past year.**

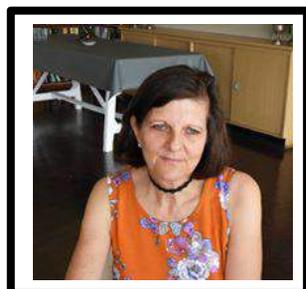
Colin does the audit of our club books.  
 He didn't get the job because of his looks.  
 No, he got it because in his brain there's grey matter  
 and that's why he comes up with this crazy patter.



Our magazine is the best, thanks to Ilona,  
 but somehow we must find a way to clone her,  
 as after next year she'll be off the committee  
 and that's going to be a hell of a pity.



The Sunday organiser is capable Jill,  
 who gets leaders to give us some hikes with a thrill  
 as we hike up and down and over a steep hill,  
 and hope that no one ends up in her hospital.



As auditor I'm going to do a close check  
 to see if Tina has somehow hidden a cheque,  
 because going the rounds is a serious rumour  
 that payments were made to the Guptas and Zuma,  
 and if I find that she she has been bought,  
 I'll have her before the State Capture Court.



Our ordinary member is our own Jenny,  
 who has talents of which there are many.  
 Leading pilgrimages back here and in Spain,  
 so let's ask the Pope her to ordain.



Now for this position you have to be wise  
 as the weekends away they have to organise,  
 so Biff is the person who checks out the venues  
 and then must decide which one to choose.

She's also known for her ear piercing whistle,  
 which makes your hair stand up like a brush's bristle.



Ana is the person on the committee  
 who is responsible for publicity,  
 not for herself, but every activity  
 that our club wants the public to see.



Coleen has been on the committee before, now as secretary she has talents galore. She also lets hikers know the hikes each Wednesday, but won't lead a hike in case she leads them astray.

Ann is the organiser of each Saturday hike. She gets leaders to take us wherever they like, provided they have a knowledge of knowing where the paths and tracks they follow are going.



Abdullah is the fundi for our website. It saves lots of time than to sit down and write so that outsiders can with a click get a view of all of the things Durban Ramblers are up to.



Now what can I say of our Chairman, Werner, that won't cause the club to expel Colin Turner. He's just and he's kind is all I will say, but on his hikes I suggest you stay away.



Now to the committee and every member I ask you please to always remember, the debt that we owe to the hikers who lead, for they are the champions and a very rare breed.

We must never forget what new hikes entails as we seek out places to find suitable trails. So we must thank those who find places for hiking and hope that each each one of those hikes is to your liking.

### **MEMBERS' STORIES**

#### **Alison Chadwick - West Highland Way Trail Scotland (30 August 2018 to 5 September 2018)**

In order to fit Alison's story in here, I have had to get a more succinct description of the route from Wikipedia and use her observations as a summary. For a more detailed report of the distances per day and lodgings along the way,

From: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West\\_Highland\\_Way](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/West_Highland_Way)

The West Highland Way (Scottish Gaelic: Slighe na Gàidhealtachd an Iar) is a linear long distance footpath in Scotland. It is 154 km (96 miles) long, running from Milngavie north of Glasgow to Fort William in the Scottish Highlands, with an element of hill walking in the route. The trail, which opened in 1980, was Scotland's first officially designated Long Distance Route, and is now designated by Scottish Natural Heritage as one of Scotland's Great Trails. It is primarily intended as a long distance walking route, and whilst many sections are suitable for mountain biking and horse-riding there are obstacles and surfaces that will require these users to dismount in places.

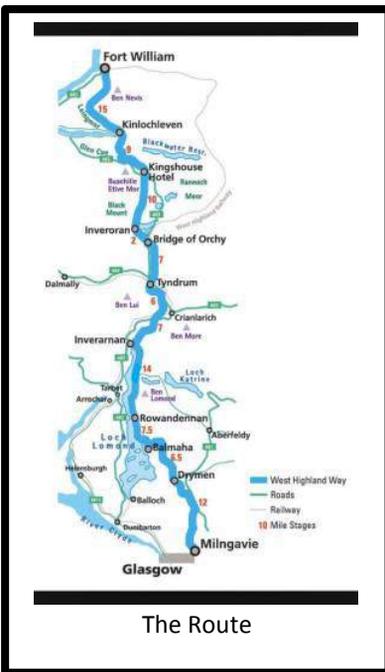


It is managed by the West Highland Way Management Group consisting of the local authorities for East Dunbartonshire, Stirling, Argyll and Bute and Highland, alongside the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority and Scottish Natural Heritage. About 120,000 people use the path every year, of whom about 36,000 walk the entire route. The path is estimated to generate £5.5 million each year for the local economy.

Notable wildlife that may be seen includes feral goats (descendants of those left from the Highland Clearances), red deer, and around the peaks sometimes golden eagles

History

The trail, conceived by the late Tom Hunter from Glasgow, was approved for development in 1974 and was completed and opened on 6 October 1980 by Lord Mansfield so becoming the first officially designated long-distance footpath in Scotland. Significant in the development of the Way was geographer



Fiona Rose who surveyed the route over a year in the early 1970s, covering some 1,000 miles on foot. In June 2010, the West Highland Way was co-designated as part of the International Appalachian Trail.

Alison's observations were as follows:

- Total distance in 6 days – 158.60 km.;
- Total distance walked in hours – 43 hrs which included coffee/beer stops;
- Elevation Gain – 3392 m;
- 5 nights accommodation and 6 days of walking;
- Accommodation cost for 5 nights per person R3,210;
- Go Haggis transported our luggage from the start to the end and provided a lift at the end from Fort William back to Glasgow (2h30 journey) – R960 (GBP50) worth every cent ;
- We took a wrong turn once when leaving Bridge of Orchy when vehicles were parked obscuring the route so we followed the road for about 4 km instead of a short sharp climb over and down a hill;
- About 80,000 people use the WHW paths every year however only about 15,000 people actually complete the entire route, we saw on average about 20 other people per day – a lot of people just doing day hikes;
- It was tougher than I expected, not technical or difficult just the long distances and time on your feet;
- Most places will provide a towel for free or for a small charge;
- Most establishments have a “drying room” so if you do some laundry you just hang your stuff in the dry room overnight and boom it's dry in the morning;
- Carry duct tape and super glue in case your boots come “adrift”;
- Carry something for blisters, they sell Compeed in the UK at almost every outdoor shop and pharmacy;
- The dreaded midges didn't bother us much, only a couple of times when we'd stop to regroup were we bothered by them;
- Free Wi-Fi everywhere;
- No one overtook us on the 6 days – surprise surprise!

For more information contact: Alison Chadwick

Cell 0827777073 - Email [alison@msdbn.co.za](mailto:alison@msdbn.co.za)



## **EVENTS TO LOOK OUT FOR IN 2018/2019**

### **Message from**

#### **Julia Colvin of Spekboom Trails**

Hi Ilona,

Hope you are well. Just to let you know we have had a lot of response from your newsletters and posting so thank you for placing our tours in your calendar.

Below are the 2019 dates for our scheduled 6 slackpacks. I have also written a short write up on each slackpack. I would really appreciate if you could place this in the next newsletter. We are now offering a 5% discount for Ramblers Club members.

### **2019 Slackpack Tour Dates**

#### **Dargle Samango R4200 pp**

Tuesday 19th March-Friday 22nd March 2019

Thursday 2nd May-Sunday 5th May 2019

Thursday 26th September – Sunday 29th September 2019 ( Kilgobbin and Crab-apple)

The Dargle Samango 3-day slack-packing hike encompasses some of the best of the KZN Midlands hidden gems. This guided hike traverses privately owned land in conservancies otherwise not accessible to the public. Renowned for a rich biodiversity and high level of endemism, the ever-changing landscapes include highly threatened Mist-Belt Forest, Afro-Montane grassland, rolling farmland and bubbling streams. Given the variety of different ecological niches, the Dargle Valley is home to over 200 species of birds including the rare Cape Parrot and White-winged Starling. Due to the prioritised protection status of this area, it is not uncommon to find highly specialised animals like the elusive Samango monkeys playing in the Cape Chestnut trees, or some of the successfully reintroduced rock dassies sunbathing by the forest fringe. Blue duiker, oribi and mountain reedbeek are frequent visitors. Known as one of South Africa's top flower spots, every season brings its own display of floral delights including Aloes, Kniphofia (red hot poker), Gladiolus, Hypoxis, Brungsvigia (river lilies) and Wahlenbergia (bell flowers).

#### **Karkloof Falls2Falls R4900 pp**

Thursday 14th Feb-Sunday 17th Feb 2019

Friday 29th March-Monday 1st April 2019

Friday 4th October-Monday 7th October 2019

The Karkloof Falls2Falls 3-day slack-packing trail offers the chance to immerse oneself in the natural splendour of the KZN Midlands. If magnificent waterfalls, spectacular escarpment views and gliding on a zip-line through the forest canopy gets your pulse racing, then this hike has just the right combination to test your stamina and sense of adventure. Heading off on ancient logging paths through the second largest indigenous forest in Southern Africa, this guided hike provides contrasting scenery with new surprises each day. From highly vulnerable mist-belt forest, towering escarpments, serene pastoral allotments and indigenous bushveld tree trails overlooking the mighty Umgeni valley gorge, you will be amazed at what the KZN Midlands has to offer.

For more information on Spekboom Tours and what's coming up next go to <http://spekboomtours.co.za>.

Established in 2015, we specialise in nature-based, ecologically-minded adventure, slack-packing, and cycle tours utilising exclusive trails through some of the most beautiful parts of South Africa.

We understand that the needs of our customers may be different, for this reason we custom design a range of trekking and cycling tours to suit your every expectation. We take the hassle out of planning your holiday offering a uniquely personal experience providing carefully selected routes off the beaten path...

## Sole to Soul

Latest news from Elsa Davids:

I have handed my walks over to Drylands Events, they do mountain biking events on a very large scale throughout the country even into Lesotho. Bernard le Roux, wanted to do a jv, and it was agreed that they would open or present trails, see to advertising logistix etc, and employ Annemarie and I to guide or facilitate the walks. They wanted to add hiking or walks to their portfolio, so seemed an ideal opportunity, also freed Annemarie and I from the logistix side of things completely, allowing us more time to do what we loved, walking. I have been waiting for a long period of time for them to come back with trails and dates etc, and they are really dragging their feet, so what I am saying, please at this stage don't wait for me, go ahead and book a walk that might speak to you, when and if, Bernard and his crew get things together I will forward details to those who might be interested.

The whole beautiful trail in the hemel en aarde valley was discussed and inspected, all we needed was for them to confirm dates and costs, as also a beautiful trail through Meirings Poort, up along the top of the Swartberg mountains and down into Prince Albert, same thing, all we are waiting for are dates etc. It is very frustrating...I worked long and hard to bring walks together over many many years, obviously they saw the potential however, now the ball is in their court they see just how much is required of the self to sew it all up, they drag their feet.

All is as it needs to be. Our beautiful mountain and region here is pitch black as Nicole Baker will tell you. The ou Toll house, the first weekend after the fire when access to mountain was allowed, Gerda was already offering pancakes and coffee outside the burnt remains of the old toll house, they have organized trail runs, next it is a wine tasting, all to generate funding for the restoration of the beautiful old building, truly inspiring, so in time she will again stand proud and ready to receive visitors who stop by. Nice to know, that somewhere out in the blackened landscape lie memories of a group of sole to soul hikers tramping up the pass.....somewhere, perhaps tucked into the crevices of the stone walls, your thoughts, and I am sure that should one pass that way again when the vegetation has regrown, and stop in the shade of a tree, one will hear your chatter, huffing and puffing, and laughter that at the time echoed through the valley.....the fire did not erase that, for the mountain, holds memories of those who got up close and personal through the eons, revealing them like a beautifully illustrated storybook, to those who care to pause just long enough and remember their passage of time, on the pass. Out the back of Louvain on the wagon trail, in the charred landscape one can now clearly see the old original wagon trail winding its way to Knysna, for a large extent been hidden for ages. All that remains at Bergplaas is the office area and some houses, which were saved by the expanse of short grass around the buildings, standing back at the top of the hill, it is like a large charcoal sketch of yesterday.

The beautiful big yellow wood tree did survive the forest, Fortunately it was mostly the fynbos areas which burnt, the indigenous forest to a large extent survived

The hour glass is fast running out, and this year is coming to an end, what a testing and phenomenal year it was. Thank you to all for your support, our few days out there on the trail was so inspiring, along with the laughter, the tired bodies, and the little steaming pots on gas burners setting the tone for a tea break. Thank you to each of you for your very personal and cherished gift of insights, personality, prayers and friendships.....which I will carefully unpack from time to time and revisit. God bless you all each and every day.

With love and blessings for a peaceful celebration of festivities, as we all slip into the new year, holding our breath and dreams for a positive and peaceful outcome. Elsa

## CLASSIFIEDS

Sometimes we find out things that could be useful to fellow hikers such as places to buy reasonably priced hiking goods or were to get good service. Please feel free to share your own bits of useful information here.



**Hi-Tec** has recently opened a new store at the Cornubia shopping mall in Umhlanga, and are offering Durban Ramblers members a 20% discount off all their full price Hiking boots and merchandise at this store. Please have your membership card handy as proof of membership to qualify for these discounts.

I was there recently and received good and friendly service. Please note that the discounts are not applicable to on sale goods, however the shoes I just bought on sale were cheaper than the discounted original price would have been.

[T: 0310003010](tel:0310003010)

[E: cornubia@hi-tec.co.za](mailto:cornubia@hi-tec.co.za)

Shop U35 (upper level), Cornubia Shopping Mall,  
Corner Dube Street & Cornubia boulevard, Umhlanga



Roseanne Dix loves her new purple gaiters. We will see you coming from a distance now Rose!

Gaiters are available in a variety of colours at R85 a pair. [www.trippersports.com](http://www.trippersports.com)

*And that is it from me, Ilona, a bumper issue this time. If you have a story you would like to share, please send it to me. Let's have some more adventures and make some more histories in the next few months.*