

Date	Description of Hike	Leader	Tel
Sun 26 June	Stockville	Margie	073 437 6915
	Walk from the Whole Hog (Harley Davidson pub at Gillitts) through to Giba Gorge, up to Winston Park and through to the Stockville Valley (a very interesting walk with great views, but not for those who suffer from vertigo). About 16 kms. Meet at the Whole Hog in Gillitts at 08h00.		
Wed 29 June	Wednesday Walk	Colin or Philip	031 708 3517 031 201 3592

WEEKEND PROGRAMME
2nd QUARTER 2011

Please phone the "Contact Person" below to confirm bookings for weekends **before** depositing the money in the bank. This will ensure your space is reserved.

Date	Description	Leader	Contact Person
Easter Weekend 22-25 April	Lake Eland – Oriibi Gorge. Camping only – couple of places still available at R70 per person per night. Lots of game viewing.	Derek/ Trevor	Sandra 031 765 5029 084 355 4832
10-12 June	Beat the cold! We're going to Mtunzini, lovely walks in forest and along beach. Super accommodation in Lodge at R125-R150 pppn (depending on numbers)	TBA	Sandra 031 765 5029 084 355 4832

ANYONE FANCY A TRIP TO RWENZORI MOUNTAINS, UGANDA?

Sean Wisedale is running a trip to Uganda's Rwenzoris in June 2011 (The Central Circuit). Dates are 16th to 26th June 2011. Anyone interested should contact Katherine Rowan, tel 083 255 5675 or email katherine@seanwisedale.com.

This is the official newsletter of the Durban Ramblers' Hiking Club. Contributions are very welcome, but the right to edit is reserved. If you have any tales to tell, we would love to hear them. Please email your copy to the Editor at chowarth@mweb.co.za



P O Box 474
NEW GERMANY 3620

www.durbanramblers.co.za

Banking Details:
Standard Bank Musgrave Road
Branch Code: 04262610
Account No: 051257653

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE DURBAN RAMBLERS' HIKING CLUB

APRIL - JUNE 2011

Portfolio	Name	Home	Cell & e-mail
Chairman	Trevor Thompson	-	079 525 9230 phenduke@durbs.com
Secretary	Ingrid D'eathe	031 262 3753	083 789 3753
Treasurer	Margot Barraclough	031 705 1188	084 256 7867 margotb@corokraft.co.za
Sun Hike Organiser	Jenny Rooks	-	084 952 0622 jennyh@camclo.co.za
Sat Hike Organiser	Werner Vanslemsbrouk	031 767 2969	0842067836 werner.v@iafrica.com
Weekend Organisers	Derek & Sandra Pretorius	031 765 5029	084 355 4832 derek@webbis.co.za
Publicity	Coleen Seath	031 202 2279	scotcoleen@telkomsa.net
Social Organiser	Ray van Reenen	031 702 1136	084 611 1199 raymond@absamail.co.za
Ordinary Member	Colin Turner	031 708 3517	-
Magazine Editor	Jill Howarth	031 267 2201	chowarth@mweb.co.za
Web Editor	Rob King	-	083 417 7805 robking45@gmail.com

CHAIRMAN'S RAMBLINGS

Hi all,

On behalf of the committee I'd like to thank you for the vote of confidence given at our recent AGM in re-electing us for a further term. We will always do our best to give you some interesting and varied hikes and

weekend trips each quarter. Now, the first thing I want to mention this quarter is to stress the importance of being correctly and safely dressed when hiking. I know it's quite the fashion to wear so-called hiking sandals, but these are most unsuitable for walking over rough or broken ground. It is all too easy to stub a toe or sustain a cut to the foot, so please keep this kind of footwear for the beach. Strong shoes or boots that offer protection and traction are very important for your safety. Please, let's not have any unfortunate occurrences.

Secondly, your committee takes its duties very seriously and one of our duties is the management of costs incurred by the Club. Our major cost is printing and postage of the magazine – each magazine costs about R5 to produce and post each quarter so we are appealing once again to all members who have access to computers to elect to have your magazine emailed to you. Just send an email to our magazine editor and it shall be done!

It only remains for me to confirm that the proposed increase in membership subs mentioned in our last newsletter was ratified at the AGM. Subs are now due and it would be appreciated if you would pay the increased rate when renewing your membership.

Happy hiking
Trevor

Member News

We extend a very warm welcome to all our new members and hope you enjoy many happy hours hiking the hills and dales with us.

- | | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ☺ Roger Jeffray | ☺ Neville Lee | ☺ Steven Cooper |
| ☺ Kate Fenner | ☺ Christine & Ron Horley | ☺ Gordon Peter Tomlinson |
| ☺ Valarie Borland | ☺ Duncan & Linda Hiles | ☺ Julie Scott |
| ☺ Janet Elliot | ☺ Harry Borman | ☺ Danielle Kelly |
| ☺ Ingrid Knott | | |

HELP : We've received subs/entrance fee from Danielle Kelly but no membership form. If anyone knows Danielle, could they please ask her to let us have the necessary paperwork so that we have her contact details on file.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

By Ray van Reenen

This is my first report as Socials Organiser for the Ramblers and since I took over the portfolio we've enjoyed a number of social evenings with good food, good wine and the most excellent company! It's my feeling that the social side of things can be run spontaneously and this will enable us to keep abreast of events as they happen so I'm not going to plan events months ahead. It also enables me, by speaking with many of you, to find out what your preferences are, after all, it's your bash that I'm organising so it's important that you enjoy it!

cont'd...

Date	Description of Hike	Leader	Tel
	<p>below for directions). Hike commences 09h45. R15 per person (hike only).</p> <p>After hike, full buffet lunch at Bhowani Lodge. Cost R110 each (includes gratuity). Booking and payment for lunch to be made with Werner <u>not later than 31 May 2011</u>. Contact Werner for banking details.</p> <p>Directions to Bhowani Lodge: From Durban, take N3 to PMB, take Exit 43 (Hammarsdale-Mpumalanga exit). Turn right across bridge onto R103 to Inchanga. Continue to Nagle Dam turnoff (8km) - opposite Caltex Garage. Turn right and travel 5km along this road passing Assmang and Cato airfield. DO NOT turn left to Nagle Dam. Pass Crafcor Abattoir. Tar road ends. Travel a further 800m on the dirt road to the entrance to Bhowani on the left.</p> <p>From PMB take Cato Ridge offramp and follow R103 past Dunbar Spar to Nagle Dam turnoff (4.5km) opposite Caltex garage. Turn left onto the road leading to Nagle Dam. Travel 5km down this road passing Assmang and Cato airfield. DO NOT turn left to Nagle Dam. Pass Crafcor Abattoir. Tar road ends. Travel a further 800m on the dirt road to the entrance to Bhowani on the left.</p> <p>Map obtainable from www.bhowanigamelodge.co.za</p>		
Sat 18 June	Umhlanga Rocks	Merle	031 561 3038
	Meet at 13h45 at car park opposite Cabana Beach Hotel. Walk along the promenade, through coastal bush, up the beach and back. Bring and braai afterwards at Merle's place.		
Sun 19 June	No hike because of June 16th Club Hike		
Wed 22 June	Wednesday Walk	Colin or Philip	031 708 3517 031 201 3592
Sat 25 June	Thornridge Farm	Trevor	079 525 9230
	Moderate walk through grasslands and riverine forest, some uphill. Meet at 13h30 at Assegay Hotel before proceeding to Thornridge Farm. R15 donation to conservancy.		

Date	Description of Hike	Leader	Tel
Sun 29 May	Comrades Marathon Day - no hike today		
Wed 1 June	Wednesday Walk	Colin or Philip	031 708 3517 031 201 3592
Sat 4 June	Stockville Valley	Werner	084 206 7836
	New hike! Meet at Gillitts Post Office at 13h30. Hikers will combine transport from here to end of Jan Smuts Avenue, Winston Park. We'll hike along the escarpment, down into Stockville Valley and back to Gillitts Post Office. Here some members will drive back to end of Jan Smuts Ave to retrieve cars left at start of hike. <i>After the hike</i> - Ray van Reenen (with his potbrood) challenges fellow members to create the Best Potjie in a POTJIE COMPETITION! Cost R25 per person. Potjie cooks must bring their own gas burners and potjie and register by 31 May. Non-cooks will be deemed to be judges and must also register by 31 May. Venue: Werner & Lois's house. For further information and registration call Werner on 084 206 7836.		
Sun 5 June	Nqutu Gorge & Inanda Dam view sites	Colin	031 708 3517
	We park at the Nqutu Gorge picnic site (the farthest of the two Krantzklouf picnic sites) and hike down to Nqutu Falls and across to the Umgeni River valley and Inanda Dam view sites. Meet in Pinetown at 08h00 or at Nqutu car park at 08h15. Entrance fee of R15 and R10 petrol sharing costs.		
Wed 8 June	Wednesday Walk	Colin or Philip	031 708 3517 031 201 3592
Sat 11 June	Harrison Flats	Colin	031 708 3517
	New hike! Meet and park at 13h45 at the Gromor compost factory. Walk to the old railway nursery and surrounds.		
Sun 12 June	Boston Tea Party	Jenny	084 952 0622
	Join Midlands Hiking Club for hike at Boston - starting off from Boston Tea Party at 08h00. Hike Leader: Keith Ashton. Phone Jenny for more details.	to coordinate	
Wed 15 June	Wednesday Walk	Colin or Philip	031 708 3517 031 201 3592
Thurs 16 June	QUARTERLY CLUB HIKE - BHOWANI	Werner	031 767 2969
	A combined Saturday/Sunday hike with an open invitation to PMB hikers to join us on Youth Day. Meet at 09h30 at Bhowani Lodge car park (see		084 206 7836

I have set up my computer to send mail to most of you, but please check with me that your e-mail address is on my mailing list, so you do not miss out on anything. And please keep sending me your ideas for good socials.

Telephone: 031 702 1136
Cell: 084 611 1199
Email: raymonddd@absamail.co.za

HIKING SCHEDULE
April - June 2011

Saturday Hikes

- **Please note:** Saturday hikers from Durban should phone Philip 031 201 3592 prior to leaving and arrange a pickup or to travel in convoy with him.
- Please get to starting point by 13h45 in order for hike to begin on time.
- For directions to the starting point, please PHONE the organiser between 12h00 and 12h45 on the day of the hike, don't SMS them.
- Children are welcome but check suitability of hike with leader. Please bring at least 1 litre of water, a snack for half time and a hat.

Sunday Hikes (Full Day)

- Always phone the hike leader beforehand to let him/her know to expect you on the hike.
- 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.
- **Meeting Place** : Union Main Centre, Old Main Road, Pinetown to depart at 08h00. If there is a change to the meeting time or venue this will be noted in the hiking schedule below.
- If it is raining, please check with the hike leader before setting out for the meeting place.
- **NB** : *if you need a lift from the meeting place, contact the hike leader or one of the hike organisers to arrange.*

Wednesday Morning Hikes

Please check details of the hikes with Colin or Philip at the numbers shown. If no response is obtained from the first leader phoned, please phone the alternate leader. **NB: Colin will be away on one of his overseas jaunts from 15th April to 29th May so during this period please phone Philip for details of Wednesday hikes.**

Date	Description of Hike	Leader	Tel
Sat 2 Apr	Alverston Nature Reserve	Trevor	079 525 9230
	Grasslands walk, up hill and down dale with some game viewing. Entrance fee R15.00. Meet at Assegay Hotel at 13h45. Bring and braai at reserve boma after the hike.		

Date	Description of Hike	Leader	Tel
Sun 3 Apr	Gromor Hike	Jon	082 459 1522
	Jon Stevens is leading his new hike incorporating bits of the Bartlett's Estate walk. Starting from the Inchanga hotel, past the station and thru the abandoned railway nursery, then up to the top of Bartlett's estate and down to Gromor. An industrial archeological experience. Drinks at the hotel afterwards. R20 petrol. R10 to the conservancy.		
Wed 6 Apr	Wednesday Walk	Colin or Philip	031 708 3517 031 201 3592
Sat 9 Apr	Kloof Beacon/The Crack	Ann	031 767 1027
	Steep climb from Krantzklouf parking area to The Crack. Stunning views. Entrance fee R15.00. Meet at Krantzklouf picnic area at 13h45.		
Sun 10 Apr	Shafton - Karkloof	Jenny to coordinate	0849520622
	Hike with views of Karkloof Falls. We are joining PMB Ramblers on this hike. Meet in Pinetown at 06h50 or at Howick Falls Hotel at 08h00. Leader François Marais. Petrol sharing costs R50.		
Wed 13 Apr	Wednesday Walk	Colin or Philip	031 708 3517 031 201 3592
Sat 16 Apr	New Germany Nature Reserve	Ismail	031 209 0902
	Grasslands walk with some riverine bush. Meet at reserve car park off Otto Volek Road at 13h45.		
Sun 17 Apr	Wingfield	Nevil	031 705 3122 083 977 2475
	Nevil's very popular Wingfield hike from the Wingfield Farm in a conservancy area at Mid-Illovo. Wonderful hike with stunning scenery and waterfalls. Meet at Pinetown at 08h00. Petrol sharing costs R40 plus R10 donation to Conservancy.		
Wed 20 Apr	Wednesday Walk	Philip	031 201 3592
Sat 23 Apr	Impithi Nature Reserve	Lois	031 767 2969
	Walk through streets of Gillitts to Impithi Nature Reserve. R5 donation to conservancy. Meet at Gillitts Post Office at 13h45. Drinks afterwards at The Whole Hog.		
Sun 24 Apr	EASTER WEEKEND - NO HIKE		
Wed 27 Apr	Wednesday Walk	Philip	031 201 3592
Sat 30 Apr	Giba Gorge	Werner	084 206 7836
	Walk along cycle tracks to see streams and waterfalls. Meet at Giba Gorge car park at 13h45. Entrance R10 per person. Relax afterwards in clubhouse for tea/coffee or a beer.		

Date	Description of Hike	Leader	Tel
Sun 1 May	Cumberland Nature Reserve	Rose to coordinate	082 564 8638
	A joint hike with Midlands Hiking Club - Leader Brian Henderson. Cumberland is on the fringes of Pietermaritzburg. Day hike through the nature reserve along the uMgeni River and up to the falls. Petrol sharing costs R50 plus R10 entrance to reserve. Meet in Pinetown at 07h15 or at the reserve at 08h30.		
Wed 4 May	Wednesday Walk	Philip	031 201 3592
Sat 7 May	Stainbank Nature Reserve	Steve	
	Moderate hike in natural bush and grasslands with some game viewing. Meet at car park inside reserve at 13h45. Entrance R15 per person.		
Sun 8 May	Giba Gorge	Dieter	031 462 7445
	A combination of some of Dieter's old favourite routes and he will also explore parts of the newly opened-up areas of Giba Gorge. Meet in Pinetown at 08h00 or Giba Gorge at 08h15. Petrol sharing costs R15 and entrance fee of R15.		
Wed 11 May	Wednesday Walk	Philip	031 201 3592
Sat 14 May	St Helier to Giba	Rob	083 417 7805
	From car park at St Helier dam through the Giba Conservancy to cucumber farm and beyond. Meet at St Helier at 13h45.		
Sun 15 May	Bluff Meander	John	073 129 1928
	John van Zyl's Bluff hike has not been done for some years now, so it will be a new hike for some (and different from Duncan's recent Bluff hike). Meet at the BP garage in Edwin Swales at 08h00 or at the Harlequins Club at 08h10.		
Wed 18 May	Wednesday Walk	Philip	031 201 3592
Sat 21 May	Umbilo DMOS	Philip	031 201 3592
	Moderate walk along river and through parkland. Meet at 13h45 at Okel Park, off Olive Lea Drive, off Bartle Road, Umbilo.		
Sun 22 May	Kloof Gorge	Margie	073 437 6915
	Margie leads a wonderful hike in the Kloof Gorge area, with the most stunning views. Meet outside Stokers at 08h00.		
Wed 25 May	Wednesday Walk	Philip	031 201 3592
Sat 28 May	Marianhill Monastery	Erica	031 266 1853
	Walk in the grounds of the monastery and visit the churches with Erica as our guide. R20 donation to monastery. Meet at 13h45 at monastery car park.		