



c/o The Chairman
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THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE DURBAN RAMBLERS HIKING CLUB 2nd QUARTER: APRIL TO JUNE 2020

CHAIRMAN'S RAMBLINGS

Dear Ramblers,

Thank you to all our Committee Members taking on the challenge of another year, I am grateful for everyone giving generously of their time to serve their Club. We welcome Merle for the Magazine, Jonathan as an Ordinary Member and Ilona stepping forward to spear head the Social Events Portfolio (which has not been filled for years).

I am grateful for all the work that Werner put into the club and he will be missed by myself and all our members.

This year, the committee will be looking at public indemnity for the Club and Hike Leaders.

Ilona will be organising a social event on the 16 of June at Cumberland. Thank you in advance to all our hike leaders who will be leading hikes in this next quarter.

Happy Rambling!

Philip

SPECIAL NOTICE

LIMITING OF HIKES TO MEMBERS ONLY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Dear fellow Ramblers,

It is with regret that we limit our hikes to members only for possibly the next quarter (this period may be cut shorter or extended depending on developments). Hike leaders to exercise their discretion and suggest not doing hikes with less than 6 people (for security reasons). Currently we are avoiding canceling the hiking program. This will mean that no visitors may join our hikes, the fixture list will not be published on the website, newspaper or facebook updates/events. Wednesday hike will proceed as announced under the guidance of Coleen.

Members to please keep good hygiene practices by:

- washing hands, sanitizing where necessary.
- not attending hikes if they are sick or have been in contact with persons who they know are infected.
- Keep reasonable distances on hikes and not engage in physical contact.
- Cover-up if sneezing and coughing.

Yours sincerely,
Philip

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The following Committee members were elected at the AGM on 8 February:

Chairman	Philip Collyer	082 417 0204		philipcollyer@gmail.com
Secretary	Coleen Seath	082 735 7659		coleensea@gmail.com
Treasurer	Ismail Vahed	083 786 6733		ismailvahed@mweb.co.za
Sunday Hike Organiser	Ana Barbosa	082 496 2320	031 462 6492	ABarbosa.DRHC@outlook.com
Saturday Hike Organiser	Ann Olds	083 666 5630	031 767 1027	annolds2@gmail.com
Weekend Organiser	Biff Maggs	082 609 9684		Biffmaggs101@gmail.com
Publicity	Diana Patoir	083 468 6941		urbanramblers.publicity@gmail.com
Ordinary Member	Jonathan Sampson	082 420 9577		jmvsampson@gmail.com
Magazine	Merle Mackenzie	082 454 0521		urbanramblers.editor@gmail.com
Social Events Organiser	Ilona Lamprecht	076 912 9829		urbanramblers.events@gmail.com
Website Organiser	Abdullah Dada	084 478 6779	031 269 1921	dada@greenit.co.za
Honorary Auditor	Rolf Klein	073 982 4976		rolf.klein@telkomsa.net

News and views from our AGM:

36 members attended the AGM at Palmiet Nature Reserve. We were pleased to welcome Philip Collyer back into the Chair this year. Other changes to the Committee were Ilona Lamprecht (previously Magazine Editor) is now Social Events Organiser and I (Merle) have filled the gap left by Ilona – big shoes to fill!! Also Jonathan Sampson was elected Ordinary Member. Ann Olds was presented with the floating trophy. Members enjoyed the braai and socialising after the meeting. Thanks to Rob for lighting the braai fire!



Last year's Committee at the AGM with Colin Turner standing in as Chairman for Werner Vanslebrouck who sadly passed away on 12 December 2019



Ann Olds (*left*) received the floating trophy for her significant contribution to Club activities

Philip Collyer (*right*) seen here on a Burman Bush hike last year, was once again elected Chairman. He previously served in this capacity from 2015 to 2017



MEMBER NEWS

NEW MEMBERS:

We have had a number of new members in the last three months:

John Mayor, Divesh Maharaj, Cheryl MacDonald, Melissa Naicker and Jolet Antoniadis

Family members: Brian Merryweather and Sandra Hogg, Maria and Emma Kapp, Shirley and Barry Moore

We wish you a warm welcome and hope you all enjoy many happy years of hiking with us.

PASSING:

It is with regret that we heard of the passing of Fred Rodwell, on the 25 November 2019, after battling with his Parkinsons condition for several years. He was 87 years of age.

He enjoyed being a member of the Durban Ramblers Club over the years - He and his wife actually met each other through the Club in 1980, and they were married in 1984. His wife Anne said they had happy times hiking together, both on local hikes and more specifically in the Drakensberg.

Sincere condolences to Anne.

INFORMATION

MAGAZINE:

A new system has been set up to send out the emailed version of the magazine using durbanramblers.editor@gmail.com as a sending address. If you know of anyone who has not received the magazine, please ask them to check their SPAM folder.

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

If any of you have been on interesting adventures recently, we would love to read about them. Please send your articles together with photos to the editor.

WEBSITE:

The website (www.durbanramblers.co.za) as well as the [Durban](#) Ramblers Hiking Club Facebook page may be viewed for updated information regarding the club, hikes, etc. It's an interesting experience to peruse the archives on our website. Biff has done a great job getting them up to date. If you have any archival info you think merits being included, please communicate with Biff about it.

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

MONEY MATTERS

SUBS FOR 2020:

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 1st 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. Regretably, until further notice, hikes will be restricted to members only.

NO CASH will be accepted. All cash deposits attract a fee which will be for the account of the member plus R25 administration charges – include your full name as reference - Members must insert SURNAME followed by membership number into the bank account referenced on the front page of this magazine.

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.

Date	DRHC	PUB HOL	Hikers (Wed)	Hikers (Sat)	Hikers (Sun)	Hike
Sat 21 Dec				500		Everton Consdervancy
Sat 28 Dec				480		Alverston Wildlife Park
Sun 19 Jan					150	Imphiti Nature Reserve
Sat 25 Jan				1680		WCC Eco Trail
Sat 25 Feb				450		Palmiet Nature Reserve
AGM				500		Palmiet Nature Reserve
Total				R 3 610	R 150	



RHINO CARD

Your basic Rhino Card (which gets you into Krantzkloof and Stainbank Nature Reserves) costs you R250 per person (under 60 yrs of age) or R230 person (over 60 yrs of age) for a year's membership. Go to <https://www.ekznw.co.za/RhinoClub.htm> or <http://www.kznwildlife.com/rhino%20card.html> for more information.

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 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.

Biff has a stock of lanyards and plastic pouches for name tags. She carries them in her backpack so they can be requested at any hike

HIKING ETIQUETTE

A few simple guidelines:

- **Follow your leader.** It's impolite to get ahead of the leader – he/she is called a **leader** for a reason!
- **Be Aware of your fellow hikers.** Keep an eye on the hiker behind you. If the gap is getting too wide, let the leader know so they the trailers can be given a chance to catch up. By the same token, don't lose sight of the hiker in front of you – attract their attention if you're falling behind.
- **Communicate.** If you want to leave the hike for any reason, make sure the leader knows and that it's safe to leave the group at that particular point.
- **Remember Your Manners.** Be kind, courteous and respectful. Don't hesitate to say hello and smile as you pass by a fellow hiker!
- **Respect the Peace and Quiet.** Keep noise to a minimum. Most people on the trail are looking to experience nature and its natural sounds, or lack thereof. Make sure your cell phone is on silent, and refrain from talking loudly or yelling amongst your group.
- **Stay on the Path.** If you don't, you could get lost and/or encounter dangerous terrain. Plus, leaving designated pathways causes damage to the environment such as destroying vegetation, erosion and degrading soil quality.
- **Don't Disturb Plants.** Hikers should not pick or remove vegetation.

RAMBLERS SOCIAL EVENT

Cumberland Nature Reserve – hike and braai – Tuesday June 16th, starting 9am

I am very grateful to my fellow committee members for their assistance in booking this day for us at Cumberland Nature Reserve. This is an environmental haven pretty close to our doorsteps. Join us for a day amongst the family of giraffe, and other families of zebra, nyala and impala.

We will start out with a good 2-3 hour hike, building up an appetite for the bring and braai afterwards.

We have a grand picnic spot booked, which includes a large table, ablution facilities and the shade of numerous trees. Please bring your own chairs.

Cost is R40 pp in cash on the day.

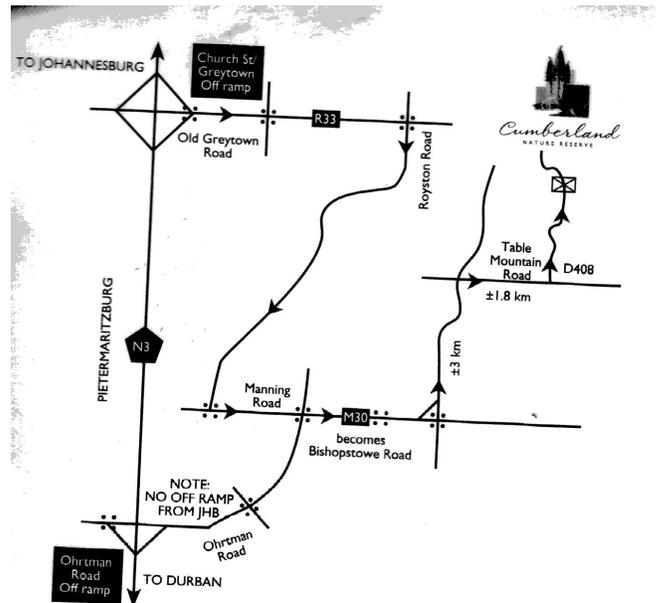
Directions: follow map:

(Exit 79 from N2, right into Ohrtmann, right into Manning, left into D408)

Website: <http://www.cumberlandreserve.co.za>

Please book with me, Ilona, at

durbanramblers.events@gmail.com so we can let our hosts know how many people they are to expect.



FIXTURES

UPCOMING WEEKENDS AWAY - Biff Maggs - Biffmaggs101@gmail.com:

Note: The proposed Easter weekend away at Loteni has been **CANCELLED**

ADVANCE NOTICE: MOUNTAIN SPLENDOUR ECO RESORT – CATHKIN VALLEY

<https://www.mountainsplendour.co.za/> you can check out this website.

In 6th November out 8th November.

It offers camping of all kinds – your tent, their tent, glamping and many variations around that.

And they have fabulous newly revamped cabins – two bedrooled and three bedrooled with all linen, all cutlery, crockery and cookware.

Set in lovely open grounds. Tar road all the way.

Some short trails straight from the camp and Monks Cowl Nature reserve with fabulous hikes, very well maintained paths.

Full price list available

Camping, own tent R188 pppn

Glamping R484.00 pppn (min 2 nights)

Log Cabins R578.00 pppn (min 2 nights)

Please book with Biff – biffmaggs101@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY MORNING HIKES: Organised by Coleen Seath.

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.) Information about the Wednesday hikes is posted on our Facebook page 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 each, a snack for half time and a hat.
- There is no need to tell the leader you will be hiking.

SUNDAY HIKES (FULL DAY): Organised by Ana Barbosa.

- 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:

- A flat even walk
- A hike without big and steep inclines
- A hike with some steep inclines - Fitness recommended
- A hike with steep inclines and rock scrambling - Fitness essential
- A hike with many inclines and rock scrambling - Fitness very essential

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY HIKING PROGRAMME 2nd Quarter 2020

DATE	DESCRIPTION OF HIKE	LEADER	GRADE
Sat 4 Apr	Infinite Adventure / Park Run, Wootton Rd, Botha's Hill	Abdullah Dada	
	Meet at Infinite Adventures at 13.45 for prompt start at 14.00. Donation R30.00. Please park at gate 4 (lower parking area). Hike down to dam, up grassy hill near Phezulu, along "park run" tracks. Beautiful views of Valley of 1000Hills	084 478 6779	3, strenuous, 9 km.
Sun 05 Apr	Honey Trails (Monteseel)	Abdullah Dada	
	Hike through a privately owned nature reserve on Honey Hill Honey Trails was developed to allow for the general public to enjoy this incredibly beautiful natural area. Expansive views,	084 478 6779	Grade 2; ±15km

	meandering paths through grasslands and forests down into the valley and back up some quite steep hills. Abdullah may decide to also explore Monteseel and/ or Inchanga Railway Station both adjoining Honey Trails. Entrance R20. Meet (08:00) at Honey Trails (off Old Main Rd, Inchanga/ Drummond - opposite Irene St, Monteseel). Non-members to please book with hike leader.		
Sat 11 Apr	Hillcrest Rail to Gillitts	Sue McMahon	
	Meet at Station Masters Arms, Inanda Rd, Hillcrest at 13.45. Donation R20.00. Walk along "reclaimed" railway line through Hillcrest, alongside old stone wall farm boundary. At end of Ashley Dr, follow path parallel to M13 and enter Gillitts residential area. Tea break in a small green area, some road walking back to railway path and return to Station Masters Arms.	079 980 0488	2, easy-mod, long: +9 km.
Sun 12 Apr	Clansthal (Recce)	Anne Wilson	
Easter Sunday	Recce hike so could yield some surprises. A mixture of road, cane, coastal forest and beach. Drinks after at The Lazy Moose in Clansthal. Meet (08:00) in road at Glenwood Village, 397 Che Guevara (Moore) Rd (lift share R40pp) or at the small car park next to the beach, about a km along Green Point Drive in Clansthal to start hiking at 09:00 sharp. Non-members to please book with hike leader, latest the day before.	079 850 0206, and Jon Stevens 082 459 1522	Grade 2; ±15km
Sat 18 Apr	Paradise Valley (cancelled 29 Feb.) 10 Oxford Rd, Pinetown.	Ismail Vahed	
	Park in Oxford Rd, (car guard), to meet inside Reserve by 13.15. Entrance R30.00. Start hike at 13.30. A good hike for new comers through indigenous bush, bridge over river, remains of early water works and views of the cascades.	083 786 6733	2, easy/mod. 7.5 km
Sun 19 Apr	Parks of Glenwood	Jonathan Sampson	
	Explore the green areas of the Berea/ Glenwood: Bulwer, Merryick Bennet, Berea, Pigeon Valley and Umbilo. Park Stella Sports Club (175 Helen Joseph Rd); drinks there afterwards. Start time 08:00. Non-members to please book with hike leader.	082 420 9577	Grade 2 Easy; ±14km
Sat 25 Apr	Stainbank Nature Reserve. Coedmore Rd, Yellowwood Park.	Steve Verreyne	
	13.30 as entry process is slow. R50.00 or Rhino Card, or Wild Card. Hike through pleasant grassland, bush, a few river crossings, grazing game. Steve makes some interesting twists and turns. BYO refreshments for afterwards	083 956 1556	3, Moderate, 8 km
Sun 26 Apr	Bisley Nature Reserve, Pmb (recce)	Roland Smith	
	A new leader with a new hike for us Durban Ramblers! Bisley NR is situated on the dry south-western side of Pmb. This patch of typically dry thorn-veld was saved from urban creep and has a large variety of habitats (grasslands, thickets, open and closed woodland) that host a wide array of bushveld birds and mammals, including giraffe, zebra and wildebeest. Bisley shooting structures no longer in use are still there. Make sure to bring a hat, sunblock, tick spray and enough water as the area is quite hot and the route mostly exposed. Early lunch/	066 111 1488	Grade 2 Easy; 12- 14km (4-5 hours)

	brunch at the bird hide. Meet (07:00) at Union Main Centre, 45 Old Main Rd, Pinetown (ride share R50pp) or (08:00) at the entrance to Intaba Ridge Eco Estate, Bisley Rd (call or WhatsApp for directions). Non-members to please book with hike leader.		
Sat 2 May	Sugar Loaf Centre– Botha’s Hill rail, Assagay.	Ann Olds	
	From Old Main Rd, Hillcrest, through robot at Kassier Rd, Sugar Loaf Centre on left at bottom of Botha’s Hill. Park by 13.45. Hike along railway to historic Botha’s Hill Station. Continue past Heidi’s Farm Stall, refreshment break at river, return through smallholding land of Assagay, and steep pull through sugar cane. Drinks at Waxy O’Connors, Hillcrest Colony.	083 666 5630	2, moderate, 9+ km.
Sun 03 May	Beachwood Mangroves/ Umgeni Bird Park & Japanese Gardens	Jonathan Sampson	
	Walk through the Beachwood Mangrove Reserve (R30 donation) or visit the Umgeni Bird Park (R50/ R25 entrance fee) and along the Umgeni river and across the beach. Bring cozzies if you want to swim. Meet (08:00) at the Pick ’n Pay Hyper, Durban North (southern parking lot). Non-members to please book with hike leader.	082 420 9577	Grade 2; ±12km
Sat 9 May	Krantzkloof Nature Reserve: Nkonka Trail	Ann Olds	
	Meet in main picnic site off Kloof Falls Rd, Kloof, before 13.30 (parking restricted so share lifts where possible.). Entry R50.00 or Rhino Card. Hike at 14.00, uphill through indigenous forest, across Bridle Rd, through endangered grassland to view point. Views east to ocean. Cont. to ladder down steep trail to bottom of Nkonka Falls. Return on same trail. Drinks at Tina’s Hotel.	083 666 5630	3, moderate, vertigo, 7 km.
Sun 10 May	Monteseel (Drummond)	Philip Collyer	
Mother’s Day	Monteseel, situated on top of the ‘Inchanga Hill’ is known for its extensive climbing routes with panoramic views of the surrounding areas, mostly the Valley of 1000 Hills. On KZN Sandstone Sourveld (an endangered grassland ecosystem) there is a small valley with grassland on one side and scarp forest on the other. Hike follows the contours of the escarpment and then steeply down to the valley and back. Donation to conservancy R30. Meet (07:45) at Union Main Centre, 45 Old Main Rd, Pinetown (ride share R20pp), or (08:30), being mindful of limited customer parking, at Drum & Bell/ Intaba View (10 Old Main Rd, Drummond). Drinks/ lunch afterwards at this venue. Non-members to please book with hike leader.	082 417 0204	Grade 3-4 Vertigo; ±17km
Sat 16 May	Umhlanga Promenade, Dune forest, Lagoon.	Ilona Lamprecht	
	Park at Durban View Park parking lot (Marine Dr, and Durban View Rd.) by 13.45. Hike along prestigious Umhlanga Promenade, through indigenous dune forest, and out onto beach to Lagoon. Drinks afterwards enjoying the sea breeze.	076 912 9829	1, easy, +8km Good pace.
Sun 17 May	Virginia Walkabout/ Danville Dawdle	John van Zyl	
	John will set off at 08:00 on a circular ramble, mixing street and bush walking in Danville Park and other green areas, with wonderful views of the sea. Meet and park at Danville Park	083 799 8382	Grade 2; ±15km

	Girl's High School (21 Middlebrook Ave, Durban N.) Non-members to please book with hike leader.		
Sat 23 May	Springside Nature Reserve, Hillcrest.	Steve Verreyne	
	Meet at 13.15 (Reserve closes early). Donation R20.00 pp. Hike at 13.30 across grasslands south of reserve, before doing a few loops in this delightful urban reserve.	083 956 1556	2, easy-mod. 7km
Sun 24 May	Dargle Mountain (iNhlozane)	Roland Smith	
	An adventurous and popular hike up iNhlozane (Dargle Mountain) starting from Mount Park Guest Farm. Initially through indigenous forest, then the hike is fairly exposed with quite a bit of clambering over rocky terrain. At the top, views on all sides are of Midlands farmlands, dams and rivers. On a clear day, views go as far as the sea. The circular hike ends with a BYO picnic or lunch back at the guest farm. Resort entrance fee R30. Meet (07:00) at Union Main Centre, 45 Old Main Rd, Pinetown (ride share R60pp) or (08:00) at Piggly Wiggly to start hiking at 08:30 from Mount Park Guest Farm. Non-members to please book with hike leader.	066 111 1488	Grade 3-4 Vertigo; 12-15km
Sat 30 May	Phezulu Safari Park, 5 Old Main Rd, Botha's Hill.	Sue McMahon	
	MEMBERS ONLY. Entrance special of R40.00 pp. Meet and park at Phezulu Safari Park by 13.15 for early start. We will be guided through this unique reserve, nestled in the Valley of a 1000 Hills. Game viewing and an opportunity to learn more about some animals and plants as we walk. Hilly terrain and a long, steep hill to the car park.	079 980 0488	2-3, mod. 8km
Sun 31 May	The Best of Palmiet Nature Reserve (Westville)	Linda Smith	
	A walk through to the top of this beautiful reserve with spectacular cliffs, a meandering river, indigenous bush and grassland. Due to the various river crossings involved, this hike can only be done during low rain season and a hiking pole is highly recommended. Optional drinks/ lunch afterwards at Waxy O'Connors. R30 donation to reserve. Meet (08:00) at the Palmiet NR (off Old New Germany Rd, Westville). Non-members to please book with hike leader	083 353 8319	Grade 3 Strenuous; ±9km
Sat 6 Jun	Monteseel. Conservancy.	Linda Smith	
	From Old Main Rd through Botha's Hill, pass Drummond, turn right (SAPS sign) to Monteseel, and immediately left to Hacienda Pub for parking, by 13.45. R20.00 donation. Hike through grassland, along cliff top overlooking the Valley (Rock Climbers hangout), and through the country suburb. Drinks at Hacienda in appreciation for parking.	083 353 8319	2-3, easy-mod. 7 km
Sun 07 Jun	Mt Gilboa in the Karkloof (Midlands Hiking Club)	Neville Lee	
	Hike from Bushwillow Park in the Karkloof to the top of Mount Gilboa. Hiking poles are highly recommended as there are some very steep downhill sections. Book early with hike leader. Max 22 people, first come first served. This hike is also offered to members of Midlands Hiking Club. There is no cellphone signal at the meeting point, so I will not be contactable on the morning of the hike. If rain then no hike, too slippery. Cost is R40pp.	083 626 9983 neville.lee@clariant.com	Grade 3+; 8 hours (day hike)

Sat 13 Jun	Delville Wood and Kirk Falls, Shongweni.	Abdullah Dada	
	M13, Exit33, over Toll Rd, left towards Shongweni Dam. Park at Denny Mushroom Farm on left by 13.15. Hike starts at 13.30. Through sugar cane, down to railway line and Delville Wood station, through tunnel to base of Kirk Falls. Long, rewarding hike. Tip for Security at gate. Drinks at Shongweni Club	084 478 6779	2 – 3, mod. Long, 10+km.
Sun 14 Jun	Holla Trails (Collisheen Estates) Umhlali	Jon Stevens	
Comrades	Go north for a tranquil walk over rolling hills of grassland, cane and coastal forest, inland from Ballito. Stay for drinks afterwards. Entry fee R30. Meet (08:00) at Sibaya Casino (left side near entrance, ride share R30pp) or at Holla Trails (Collisheen, R102, Umhlali) to start hiking at 08:30. Non-members to please book with hike leader	082 459 1522	Grade 2-3 Mod; ±15km
Sat 20 Jun	Summerveld, Bux Farm area.	Jon Stevens	
	M13, exit 33, left and 1 st right into Cliffdale, left into Hawkstone, right into Summerhill Rd. Park at Summerveld Lodge around back of building, by 13.30. A challenging winter hike, with some steep, narrow paths. Views towards Hammarsdale. Drinks at the Lodge.	082 459 1522	3, vertigo, +8 km.
Sun 21 Jun	Valley of 1000 Hills (Botha's Hill)	Stella Wells	
Father's Day	Steep in parts. Hike into the valley and follow the river before scrambling back up to the dirt road then back down to river before the final climb (fairly strenuous) out of the valley. Drinks afterwards at the Chef School. Meet (08:00) outside bottom gate of the 1000 Hills Chef School, 2 Wootton Ave, Botha's Hill. We must enter as a group so the gate is opened only once for us (Stella will arrange gate opening). Please ensure you have sufficient hydration for this hike. Non-members to please book with hike leader.	078 319 8979	Grade 3-4; ±18km
Sat 27 Jun	Roosfontein Nature Reserve, Westville.	Ismail Vahed	
	Park at entrance to Westville Prison, off Spine Rd, at 13.30 to start hike at 13:45. A good winter hike over grassland, with views over Umbilo River, and Queensburgh.	083 786 6733	3, moderate, 7+ km.
Sun 28 Jun	Bluff Military Base to the Old Whaling Station	Margie Forbes	
	The Bluff has been awarded International Whale Heritage Site status and this hike has been scheduled to coincide with the Welcome the Whales and Whale Watching Festival held annually at the Bluff. Margie Forbes will lead us from the Bluff Military Base down to the pier, and along the beach to the old whaling station. A good stretch of beach walking is involved so be sure to wear a hat and bring lots of drinking water. Great photo opportunities so bring a camera. Meet to start hiking at 07:30 outside the gate to the military base, on Marine Drive just after it ceases to be Lighthouse Road. Phone Margie for further information. Non-members to please book with hike leader.	and Alistair MacKenzie 073 437 6915	Grade 2 Mod ±16km

OTHER HIKING OPPORTUNITIES

RECIPROCITY AGREEMENTS



Keith from **Midlands Hiking Club** has been kind enough to extend to our members, not only an invitation 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 has entered into a reciprocity agreement with us 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 TEL: 078 885 6505 - WEBSITE: www.jhbhiking.co.za



We are in the process of formalising a reciprocal agreement with **Mountain Backpackers Club** at the request of Heidi Cox, their new Chairman. Their website is: <https://www.mountainbackpackers.co.za/>.

Hi-Tec has opened a new store at the Cornubia shopping mall in Umhlanga, and is 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.

Tel: [0310003010](tel:0310003010)

E-mail: cornubia@hi-tec.co.za

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



Outdoor Adventure Gear:

William Vermaak used to have his store in Glenwood Village, he is still around, just one block down at 332 Che Guevara, an old mansion of Glenwood that is a treat to visit. Call him on 031 201 5729 or 082 825 1652 to arrange for a consultation and bring your old boots so he can see what kind of boot or shoe would best support you and for other hiking gear requirements.

All future submissions for the magazine should be sent to the Editor – we would love to hear about any interesting adventures you may have been on.