

FEBRUARY, 1959

THE DURBAN RAMBLER



Drakensberg Gardens,
where this year's
Easter Camp will be
held.

E A S T E R C A M P

- PLACE: Drakensberg Gardens.
- DATE: Evening of Thursday, 26th March to
Monday, 30th March.
- TIME: Lorries leave the market place, Warwick
Avenue, at 8 p.m. on Thursday night.
Members are requested to be at the market
place at 7.30 p.m. to enable the lorries
to be loaded early.
- COST: Paid-up-members £3.0.0d.
Non paid-up-members and visitors £3.15.0d.
- ENTRIES: All those wishing to attend must please
fill in the form below and return it to
The Treasurer, Durban Ramblers Club,
P.O. Box 1063, Durban, not later than
22nd March. Entries and fees may be paid
in on one of the hikes, but no money is
to be paid in at camp, and no one will
be allowed to attend without having paid
their fees.

All those who have not been camping
with the Ramblers before should remember to bring
their own plates, mug, knife, spoon and fork.
Food is provided. A sleeping bag, or at least
three blankets, is also required, as well as a
groundsheet and warm clothes for the evenings.
Tents are provided.

Note: If necessary, money may be paid
in to the account of the Durban Ramblers Club
at the Standard Bank, 329 West Street, but the
duplicate deposit slip must be in Harry's hands
before camp.

THE DURBAN RAMBLER.

Editor Margery Tomlinson
phone 41148

It seems customary to write a brief editorial so I have been searching the file of past magazines for inspiration. Scotty last month remarked that his successor would have an interesting and rewarding task. Interesting it certainly is, but I am not so sure that it's rewarding.

I would like to take this opportunity of extending the thanks of us all to the outgoing committee members for the hard work that they have put in over the past year, and also to wish the new ones a most successful and enjoyable task in the year ahead. I think Scotty also deserves our thanks for putting the magazine on its feet again.

Finally, if anyone is interested in taking photographs for the magazine (black and white only), please contact the editor. The club will pay for the spool, developing and printing - all you need is a camera.

HIKE TO WHITE ROCK.

This popular hike attracted quite a good turnout in spite of the obvious signs of heat. After the usual refreshing halt at Jabula stores, we turned off onto the Adam's Mission road, and soon it was time to walk.

The route followed was a real switch-back course. Up and down we went, through sugar-cane, along a narrow-gauge railway line, and always there was the heat!

(2)

At one point, we were intercepted by the local pineapple salesmen who flogged us their produce at 6d. each (town prices 3d.). With this additional load, we struggled on, and a few more steamy hills later, we were descending the sides of the ravine.

The lunch spot was reached with great relief, and what a lovely place it is. The river runs down a smooth chute, and then drops about 10 feet into a deep pool. Needless to say, the water babes were soon at play, and Rob had a gallery of watching umphaans in gales of laughter with his antics.

During lunch, more pineapple wallahs descended on us and still managed a brisk trade - this time at 3d. each!

3.15 saw us packing up again, and starting back to the lorries. Billowing black clouds and rumblings of thunder quickened our paces, but it was not long before we were being drenched in the downpour. The rain eased off quickly, however, but caught us up again on the lorries, flooding the seating accomodation with a dirty brown torrent which soon had most of us standing.

At roughly 6 o'clock, the Market Square saw the return of a drenched, dirty and disshevelled mob. Another wonderful hike had ended, and we were all looking forward eagerly to the next.

Note: If anyone is interested, White Rock Hill is 897 feet above sea level and the river is the Nungwana, a tributary of the Illovo, according to my large-scale map.

Jack Tankard

repor

River crossing



spot on
at day!

Food's up!



(3)

DANCE HELD AT THE AIR FORCE CLUB.

The dance, which was held at the Air Force Club on the 7th February proved a most enjoyable occasion. I think everyone agreed that the comfortable, mellow atmosphere of the Club contributed in great measure to its success.

Members arrived in their numbers in spite of rain (attendance at this social was encouraging after some of the disappointments of last year), lights were dimmed and groups soon formed themselves into parties at the candle-lit tables. Soon feet were tapping and gay skirts whirling to the fast tempo of the band. There were all the favourite tunes, and a novelty dance, which kept everyone guessing till its mysteries were unravelled. Much spontaneous "entertainment" was provided by various members. As the evening wore on, masculine members especially, shows signs of wilting, and the fan was in great demand, its direction being changed in quick succession to cool off exhausted dancers.

The festivities were wound up with a speech by Des Teague, and after the last dance it was evident that guests were in no hurry to go home. The automation of the lift proved too much for one member still in the party spirit, though he did eventually manoeuvre his guests safely down from the 13th floor.

Our thanks are due to the Entertainments Committee for organising such a pleasant evening and let us hope it is the forerunner of many more enjoyable occasions to come.

Sylvia Daniell

(5)

like and this proved most successful, a fact which was evident by the record number of members present (74 were counted). After everyone had found somewhere to sit, even if it was on the floor, we got down to business.

The Chairman's report was on a rather unhappy note in that he stated that the previous year had not been as successful as had been hoped, as far as attendance on hikes and at the functions for entertainment were concerned. However, this was probably only a temporary period as the last few hikes and socials have really proved to be popular.

The Treasurer reported that a loss had been made during the previous year and each one of us can assist in this important matter by paying our subscriptions which, incidentally, are due NOW, as soon as possible, thereby keeping the Club in funds.

Much of the business of the meeting was passed over very quickly and then came the election of the officers. There are a fair number of new faces on the committees, and an equal number of experienced Committee-ites to help the new ones on. I am sure that most of us sighed with relief to find that our Chairman is still willing to bear with us, and that goes for the Treasurer too, both of whom do more than their fair share in keeping the club on its feet.

Under "General", there were many suggestions made and the leaders came under the usual barrage of fire. The old discussion regarding the inclusion of advertisements in the magazine was resumed, and it was decided that it would in fact be of financial assistance to adopt this suggestion. Margaret reminded everyone of the Cake Sale on 28th February and, in order to make this the success that it should be, I hope that her request for donations of food articles will be taken to heart.

Finally, a big thank-you to Ernest for arranging for us to use Lyons Tea Factory Canteen, an ideal venue.

Denise Sherwood.

(6)

COLOUR-REVERSAL FILMS

Correct exposure is only possible when the brightness range of the subject is within the practical limits of the film; when this range is exceeded there is no level of exposure that can produce correctly exposed highlights and shadows.

Colour photography with reversal-type films differs from black and white in that it involves no printing stage in which differences in overall density of the negative due to differences in exposure can be corrected. In this respect colour reversal films can be said to have no exposure latitude whatever, if all transparencies are to be of equal overall density. In practice this means working to within $\frac{1}{2}$ stop of correct exposure.

Being faced with this fact, we must study it to see the nature of the problem it presents and also to find any loopholes. With a subject of moderate brightness-range such as an average landscape, it will be found that an exposure of 1 stop greater and near 2 stops less the correct level will still give a transparency of acceptable colour, though it will vary in both colour saturation and density. There may also be some differences in colour balance but this will depend somewhat on the nature of the colours. For example, with a deep blue sky, under-exposure of 2 stops tends to exaggerate its blueness compared to other colours.

These suggested limits should not be accepted as a hard and fast rule: much depends on the brightness of the subject and the colours present in it. The photographer seeking some pictorial effect may find limited exposure variations a useful means of control and with certain subjects, find it worth while to give a series of exposures at $\frac{1}{2}$ stop intervals.

Harry Tripe

GOUROCK ROPES & CANVAS (AFRICA) LTD.,
Birkmyre House, 444 Smith Street, Durban,

are offering camping and hiking equipment at reduced rates to Club members who identify themselves by producing the Club Badge (obtainable from Lindy for 6/-).

Their goods include the following articles:

Sleeping bags

Airbeds and air mattresses

Lightweight aluminium camping cooking utensils and army-type water flasks.

Billy cans.

Ground sheets.

Lightweight hikers' tents.

Gas stoves, lanterns and small camping spirit stoves.

Ruc-sacks and haversacks.

Waterbags.

Italian hemp rope.

Canvas anoraks, made of stout green proofed canvas for rugged conditions with zipped pouch-pocket and draw cord for waist and hood. Inner Elasticised cuffs. Available in sizes small, medium and large .

NEW MEMBER.

We would like to welcome Colin D. Harris, and hope that his stay with us will be a long and happy one.

SOCIAL NEWS.

Barbara Joffe leaves for overseas during March. We hope that she will have a very enjoyable trip.



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Cover girl.