

MINUTES OF THE 68th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
OF THE DURBAN RAMBLERS' HIKING CLUB  
HELD ON THURSDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2000  
AT THE NEW GERMANY SPORTS CLUB, NEW GERMANY

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PRESENT: 45 members as per attendance register.

APOLOGIES: Received from John Whittaker, Cedric Biggs, John Kyle, Marge Blake, Margaret Robbarts, Mary-Lee Arnot, Monica Matthews, Gavin Thomson and Sharon Young.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF 1999 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

These were read to the meeting by Colin Turner.

Philip Gatenby requested a correction in the section regarding Cambalala "2". His comment had been taken in the wrong context; he had in fact meant that we should get on with the matters in hand and not concern ourselves with anything that may happen in the future. Acceptance of Minutes proposed by Celia Vergari and seconded by Margret Kirsten.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 1999 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

The Cambalala "2" matter has dragged on; our latest information is that the tender documents have been drawn up and are currently lodged with the Board of Kwa-Zulu Natal Nature Conservation Services. Once the documents have been approved they will be distributed to the interested parties, i.e. ourselves, the Mountain Backpackers Club, the Transvaal section of the Mountain Club, and a possible fourth group.

In response to an enquiry from Audrey Vickers regarding our donation of R1000 to K-Z N N C S for repairs in the Hospitaalspruit area, it was reported that 50% was spent on labour and 50% on materials, and the situation is as follows :-

- i) the 2km path between Jacob's Ladder and Stable Cave has been upgraded
- ii) the section Stable Cave - Hospitaalspruit is to receive attention this year
- iii) Steilberg to Jacob's Ladder is to be completed in the future

Philip Gatenby commented that what really required attention was the small area of bush where tree-trunks had fallen over the path, and the R1000 would have been sufficient to cover the cost of clearing the path.

CHAIRMAN/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Colin Turner read the reports from the Chairman and the Committee members. These were unanimously accepted by the meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

This had been made available to members. A resumé was given by the Treasurer; he drew attention to the fact that our income has dropped, whereas running costs have increased. In this regard, an over-the-board increase of R5 in subscriptions was suggested for 2001. Proposed by Glynis Bentley, seconded by Marcia Wilde.

If necessary a further subscription increase of R5 may be considered at the next Annual General Meeting for introduction in 2002.

Acceptance of Financial Report proposed by Mike White and seconded by Tony Livingstone.

AMENDMENT TO CLUB CONSTITUTION:

Colin Turner explained to the meeting the reason for amending the Club's Constitution. He confirmed that Pietermaritzburg Ramblers have already made a similar amendment to their Constitution.

Proposed by Margret Kirsten and seconded by Tony Livingstone.

# ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:

The following office bearers were elected to serve until the next Annual General Meeting :-

Chairman	: Margret Kirsten	proposed by Adrian Rowe seconded by Tom de Waal
Secretary	: Pam Podmore	proposed by Margret Kirsten seconded by Grahame Davies
Treasurer	: Chris Dobson	proposed by Margret Kirsten seconded by Grahame Davies
Day Hike Organiser	: Adrian Rowe	proposed by Margret Kirsten seconded by Glenys Bentley
Weekend/Berg Hike Organiser	:	It is hoped that Nevil Walmsley will accept this position
Trails Organiser	: Bill Hyslop	proposed by Philip Gatenby seconded by Colin Turner
Entertainment Organiser	: Margaret Pershouse	proposed by Chris Dobson seconded by Colleen Seath
Magazine Editor	: Grahame Davies	proposed by Pam Podmore seconded by Chris Dobson
Publicity Organiser:	Myrtle Ryan	proposed by Margret Kirsten seconded by Colin Turner
Ordinary Member	: Celia Vergari	proposed by Philip Gatenby seconded by Chris Dobson
Hon. Auditor	: Colin Turner	proposed by Philip Gatenby seconded by Margret Kirsten

Chairman: Philip Gatenby and Margret Kirsten were both nominated for this position.

In support of her nomination of Philip Gatenby, Celia Vergari said that his previous year of office had been a peaceful one, and under his chairmanship of the Club all the recent ill-will and nastiness should not recur.

Adrian Rowe, who nominated Margret Kirsten, detailed the history of her work on the Committee, and said that she would put Club interests before all else.

Both nominees were asked to leave the hall and a vote was taken twice to confirm the number of votes.

Margret Kirsten beat Philip Gatenby by a narrow margin; there were two abstentions.

Day Hike Organiser: Philip Gatenby, Adrian Rowe and Bill Hyslop were proposed for the position; Bill Hyslop refused and Philip Gatenby stepped down.

Adrian Rowe then asked Bill Hyslop if he would assist with day hikes during the year. Bill Hyslop addressed the meeting at length; he was non-committal about assisting with day hikes, and referred to his usually solo efforts in bushcutting, which he resented, especially when other leaders were involved.

Margret Kirsten said that each leader should arrange for clearance of his/her paths.

Adrian Rowe named various leaders who organise and clear paths for their hikes.

PRESENTATION OF FLOATING TROPHY:

The floating trophy was presented to Jean Foster for her most welcome contribution to Sunday hikes - attending to the provision of lunchtime tea and coffee.

GENERAL: \* Honorary Life Membership was conferred on the following members with more than thirty years' membership of the Club :-

Rosemary and Terry Lubbe  
Chris Hodges  
John Whittaker

\* Georgette de Vos, Glenys Bentley and Mike White were congratulated on summiting Kilimanjaro at the New Year.

\* All members present were most appreciative of the effort being put in by Adrian Rowe in gathering and taking care of Club archive material. Adrian advised the meeting of seven trophies currently held in the archives: also that he has collected old membership lists and copies of most issues of past Club magazines.

\* Bill Hyslop's forthcoming trip to Austria was applauded by the meeting.

\* Colin Turner advised members of the following hikes to be led by George Archibald :-

21/4 - 1/5 Port Edward to Port St Johns 4 places available

1/7 - 8/7 Kilimanjaro - tenting route

\* Discussion took place regarding the Club tents currently in Gerald Hall's care.

CLOSURE: The meeting closed with sincere thanks to Colin Turner for his services to the Club during his three years in the Chair.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21h45.

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SECRETARY

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CHAIRMAN

DATE: .....