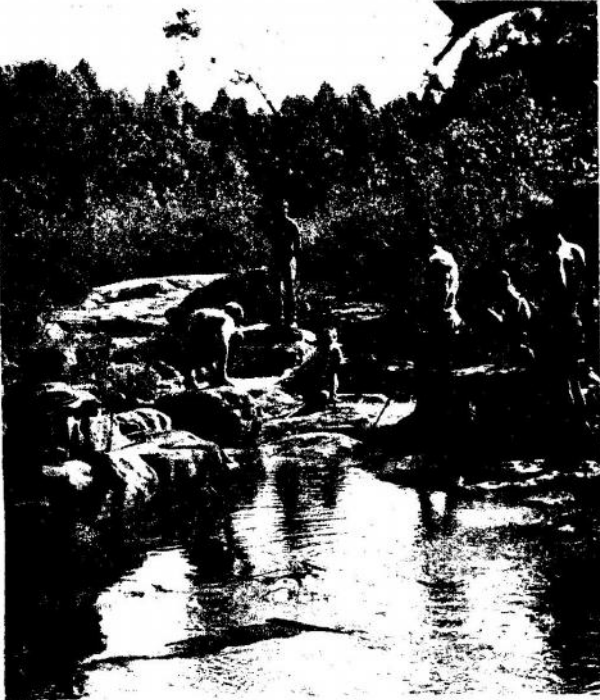




FOUNDED 1922

DURBAN RAMBLERS CLUB

NOVEMBER 1962



DURBAN RAMBLERS' CLUB.

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NOVEMBER 1962 - Fixture List.

SUNDAY: 4/11 Hike to Nwabi Summit with Gary
 leading. Lorry leaves Market
 Place at 8.30, and proceeds via
 Pinetown.

MEMBERS: 45c
VISITORS: 50c

TUESDAY: 5/11 Executive Committee meeting at
 Gary Rabie's flat - 2 Parkway,
 Park Str. Commences at 8.00.

SUNDAY: 18/11 Combined hike with the Pieter-
 maritzburg Ramblers to Shelter
 Falls. Cars will leave the
 Market Place at 7.45 a.m. and
 travel to Howick, where this
 delightful hike begins. We are
 to meet at the Falls Tearoom at 10am.

MEMBERS AND VISITORS: 75c.

WEDNESDAY: 21/11 Photographic meeting at Margaret
 Moore's home - 37 Venice Rd.,
 Durban. The subject for the
 competition is 'General', and the
 meeting commences at 8.00.

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ANNUAL AMBLE 1963.

The executive committee are considering the
introduction of an entrance qualification for the
Annual Amble. This will take the form of a set
number of hikes to be attended by the member
during the year prior to the amble.

3.
"OPERATION X" 7/10/62.

It was 9 o'clock on a cloudy Sunday morning and Ramblers were still hanging around the market place. Were we going, or not? Yes we were off four in one car and two in another. Was that all you might well ask? Oh well we hoped to be joined by more hikers at Pinetown, and here our party was in fact increased by a further five pioneering spirits. After a long discussion as to what we should do, we eventually set off in two cars arriving at Molweni Supply store shortly after ten o'clock.

By this time the clouds had all disappeared and the sun was blazing down on us, and there was not even a breath of wind to relieve us. After a short walk we arrived at the edge of the Umgeni River valley, where we had some fine views of the river, and of Topp's needle. After finally deciding which way we should go, we set off along the top towards Topp's needle through open country with clumps of indigenous trees dotted around making it a very pleasant walk. As we were walking along there was a cry from the back of the line, "Here's something for a mag. It's a tree doing handstands". As no one offered to carry it back we had to leave it behind.

On arriving at the shop near Topp's needle we all went in to cool off. At this point Mike who wasn't feeling too well decided to turn round and go home.

Near the top of the crack Glen came across a Black-necked Cobra, which he got rid of in no uncertain manner. The scramble down the crack then began with cries of "Don't dislodge the rocks" coming from all sides. Some way down the crack Dymock suddenly found his way blocked by another Cobra. Glen dealt with this one as well, and so we were able to carry on. Near the bottom it became too steep so we had to turn back and go on round to Topp's needle. From there we dropped down to the Umgeni river. Cont. on page 4.

Operation X 7/10/62. Cont.

Feeling very hot and tired we eventually reached the river at about 1 o'clock. No time was wasted in going in for a swim, but we found that the water was a bit too warm to be refreshing.

After lunch and a very welcome rest we set off back to the cars by way of the Dolomite staircase. By the time we reached the staircase the clouds were coming up again, and this made the climb a lot more pleasant. Back at the store some of the party found some little puppies sheltering under an old lorry.

Back into the cars, and so on back to Durban, arriving there with some daylight to spare, and so ended another very enjoyable day.

EKIM.

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TREASURE HUNT. 13/10/62.

The Treasure Hunt proved to be a great success, and a large crowd gathered at the Market place at 6.30 p.m.

There was a mad scramble for ignition keys which had been jumbled up together, and then we were away, complete with instructions, towards the 'Villa Grey', and along Umgeni Road with a stop at the 'striking factory' to find a clue. Meanwhile we were also expected to muster a bikini, and a bottle of sea water among other things. When we had gathered as many of these as possible, we were off once again on the old main road to Umhlanga Rocks, finding clues at intervals along the way. From Umhlanga Rocks our route became more devious, and we had to keep our wits about us. Why I wonder did I always spot the clues when we had already left them in the dust? After reversing frantically we usually managed to pick up the lost trail. Our way now lay through the sugar cane in the light of the silvery moon!. Cont. page 5.



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A few of the adventurous nine on operation X.



Quiet
chat?

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One way to
conserve shoe
leather.

Prepare
to
repel
boarders!!



Treasure Hunt. Cont.

I was becoming so confused at this stage that I could not help wondering whether we should land up at Stanger, or back in Durban. Well it turned out to be Mount Edgecombe, and after counting lamp posts for dear life we proceeded on in the direction of Stanger until we turned off the main road into the cane once again, to find ourselves at the Fraser's, and at the end of the trail. How welcome the braais and the delicious spread was, as by this time we were all feeling peckish. Unfortunately Mike Wigley was very much delayed by a mishap, but he very gamely went on to complete the hunt, and joined us as soon as he was able. Neil Oellermann and Clive Witherspoon tied for 1st place, and were called upon to have a race to see who could change a wheel the fastest. Neil was the winner, and after all his hard work really deserved his prize.

The entertainments committee are to be congratulated for this most enjoyable and successful evening.

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PHOTOGRAPHIC MEETING. 17/10/66.

The meeting this month was held at Mike Castleden's home in Westville, and 18 members attended. As Rob Philp will be away next year a new Chairman, Chris Schorn, was elected, and Adele agreed to continue as Secretary.

The subject for the competition was 'Cheese-cake and portraiture', and once again Margaret Moore swept the boards with 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Her winning slide of a Rambler taking a shut-eye on a hike aroused much mirth. We were provided with a delicious tea, for which Mike and his family are to be thanked, and the evening was rounded off with a number of miscellaneous slides.

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UMLAAS FALLS. 21 10/62.

It was cloudy and decidedly cold when we gathered at the Market place, and when by 9 o'clock there were still only 12 of us we set off in the lorry for Pinetown, where 9 other hikers joined us. As we bumped along the road to Georgedale, Glen, who was riding on the bumper of his car was very nearly lassoed by our gallant 'cow punch' Philp. Better luck next time Rob.

By the time we reached the station the prospect of walking was a welcome one, as we were feeling rather cramped after our long ride. Without wasting any time we set off, past the store on the track to the church and school. Then we cut off across the hilltops towards the river glinting in the distance, and the top of the falls. From here we scrambled down the path just around the corner from the actual falls. By now it was very pleasant as the sun was shining, and we picnicked on the beach alongside the one fall and not on the rocky slopes. Soon a game of baby's-ball badminton was in full swing on the sand, and when the teams grew tired of this they roped in the girls to play touch-rugby until it was time to adjourn for lunch. After this diversion the lunch spot emptied as everyone scattered to explore downstream.

All too soon it was time to make our way back along more or less the same route. When we reached the lorry the sky had clouded over again, and it promised to be a cold journey back. Gary and Rob succeeded in breaking the monotony of the trip by striking up an acquaintance with 2 'dolls', who were travelling in a mini-minor behind the lorry for some distance. Unfortunately just as they got to the stage of exchanging telephone numbers by means of a vivid sign language the lorry stopped for a moment, and the mini was past us in a flash. Never mind you two you still have that phone number.

Editress's corner. Cont.

I know how much I look forward to hikes, and how wonderful it is to enjoy healthy exercise simply for enjoyment, and not in any spirit of competition. One can relax completely on a hike and return home dusty and weary, but contented.

Editress, A. Schorn.
Phone: 47581.

New of Ramblers.

Congratulations to Joy Dryden, who has done very well in the Eisteddfod.

By the way as you will see I have'nt much for this column, so if you have any news of Ramblers overseas, or in other parts of the country, please pass it on to me.

Ed.

FLASHBACK TO 1957.

From the April number in our files comes this interesting recipe:

It's here the greatest food discovery since the Ferns Bros. produced their Explosive Baked Beans. It's sludge. Spelt S-L-UDGE. Formula evolved by a team of gourmets on a recent Berg Trip, tried and approved in the heart of the Drakensberg. Here it is:

Ingredients: 1 pkt. Tomato Soup.

1 pkt. Onion Soup.

1 tin Bully Beef.

2 pints river water.

1 mug red wine.

Method: Mix ingredients in a rusty billy. Boil over a fast flame, in the dark, kicking the Billy over at frequent intervals. Slop liberally when serving. Serve for dinner, or breakfast. Keep a sample for analysis at inquest.



Come On In the water's fine.
Full of Bunn's