



# DURBAN RAMBLERS CLUB

OCTOBER 62



DURBAN RAMBLER'S CLUB.

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OCTOBER 1962 - Fixture List.

- TUESDAY: 2/10 Committee Meeting at Geoff Black's home. 182 Gray Park Rd., Brighton Beach at 8.00 p.m. sharp.
- SUNDAY: 7/10 Hike "Operation X" led by Robin. Hikers will assist in finding a new hike. Only cars to be used - each passenger to pay driver 45c. Take own water and torches, and be prepared for 'bundu-bashing' and a lot of fun.
- SATURDAY: 13/10 Novelty Treasure Hunt.  
See page 6 for further details
- WEDNESDAY: 17/10 Photographic meeting at Mike Castleden's home, 7 Wedge Rd. Westville (off Langford Rd.)  
If you get lost phone 857434.
- SUNDAY: 21/10 Umlaas Falls Hike with Lindy leading - via Pinetown.  
Members 50c Visitors 55c

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Weekend at Bulwer. 1-3/9/62.

The club was very fortunate in having this weekend arranged by Gary and his helpers. Accomodation and transport were all included, and those members who took advantage of this excellent opportunity will agree that it was really worth while.

The main party left on Saturday morning, and soon after leaving Maritzburg caught their first glimpse of the snow, which had made headline news earlier in the week. Towards Impendle the hills were covered with a thick blanket of white, but the day itself was sunny and warm. What a thrill it was to find on arrival at the Mountain Park Hotel that the snow was still lying in thick drifts on Bulwer Mountain. The hotel itself is built in Old English style and is a building full of character. As soon as we had settled in we scrambled up the slopes of the mountain, and soon the stragglers in the party were having a raw deal, as they were pelted with snowballs from above. Joan and Alec, and Mike not content with this were soon sliding the snowy slope on their backs or stomachs, and assured us that it was the best morning's fun they had had in a long while.

On Saturday night some of us danced in the lounge, others played darts or snooker or cards, while two enthusiasts pored over a chessboard. The next morning the weather was beautiful once again and bowls and tennis were popular pastimes. Some folks were brave enough to dare the swimming pool, and others went for a climb up to the snow. After lunch two parties drove over to Sani Pass, and cameras began clicking

when the snow covered range spread out before us. As we began wending our way back to Bulwer the sun was just setting, and the mountains were etched against a crimson sky.

Monday morning was a time of complete relaxation, but all too soon afternoon was upon us and we joined in the general exodus from the hotel and began to bump and rattle our way home. I for one shall never forget my first opportunity to romp in the snow, and for most of us I am sure that the weekend was a memorable one.

ALEDA.

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SPRING BALL. 15/9/62.

On arrival at the Westville Town Hall addressed in our 'soup and fish' we got the impression we had come to the wrong place (again?) because in the foyer a very gay beach scene met our eyes. What do we do now? Dash back home and get our costumes and/or read our mags again and see if it said perhaps 'City Hall, Durban'. No, it's O.W. folks, 'cause looking tres, tres debonair was our Entertainments Chairman at the table taking lovely lolly.

Verant Wills and his musical Pills were playing gaily and a few brave bods were rambling around the floor. The hall itself certainly looked very festive, and I think the entertainments committee are to be congratulated (how much to keep my mouth shut on the inside information?) on a very decorative atmosphere.

Of course no function is complete without our Chairman having his little say. He said "Good evening I xxxxx xxxxxxxx xxxxx xxxxx xxx xxxxx xxx (censored)" which you will agree was very good.

P.T.O.

Then the bravest girl in the club, our charming hostess for the evening, Deenishia Philpowitz (stage name) actually went onto the platform with the Twisting Terror (our Chairman) and they proceeded to give out the prizes for the Amble. We very sadly noticed that quite a few certificates will have to be posted as their owners didn't appear to have recovered sufficiently from the Amble to make a public appearance.

We all swallowed our disappointment with our hamburgers and hot-dogs followed by ice-cream in the true sea-side fashion (all that was missing was the sea-sand) and as the 'waves' of music flowed o'er reclining bodies a strange sight met our eyes. The Twisting Terror was at it again joined this time by Flipping Philp and they gave us a demonstration of how the Twist can ruin your back-bone. Well, this demonstration must have inflamed many a meek soul as soon everyone was on the floor, twisting like a cork-screw. Frank Daly gave us a work out with some new novelty dances which certainly kept us on our toes... and suddenly it was midnight and time to go back to our bathing booths and change to go home... and as we reluctantly say farewell to this tropical island of Westville the sun comes up in the South...East... oh well, who cares??

ALSO SWAM.  
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NEW MEMBERS.

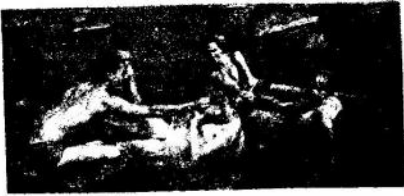
This month we welcome to the Club Kevin Claudius and also Mavis Thompson, whose name was unfortunately omitted from last month's list of new members. May your hiking days with us be happy ones.



May I have  
the next  
dance please.



One - Two - Three ----- !!



Have a  
handful

Do you  
get that  
cramped  
feeling?



you are next.

TROPHIES.

Two floating trophies which are awarded for the Annual Amble are of special interest. They are the 'George Matthews Trophy' and the 'Ernest Foster Trophy'.

The former trophy was first presented to George Matthews by the Mayor of Capetown in 1901 when he won the race from Capetown to Simonstown and back again. This year the trophy was presented to the club by his son, and is awarded to the novice who does best in the race. It was won this year by Mike Wrigley, who did exceptionally well and came second. Mike richly deserves this honour, for although he has been a member of the club for only a few months he is one of our most enthusiastic supporters, and has often been up at 5 a.m. to hitchhike from Stanger to Durban in order to be able to join us on a hike.

The Ernest Foster Trophy was presented to the Ramblers by Ernie before he left for overseas two years ago, and is awarded for the best effort displayed in the race. Last year it was won by Jean Carter, who had an unfortunate fall towards the beginning of the race, but carried on most gamely with a badly grazed knee to come second. This year the trophy was won by Dymock Parr our ex-chairman, who staged a come-back in the race. Dymock has taken part in many races at the Crestholme circuit, and won the Amble when the men walked from Drummond to Durban. He has not however competed for a few years, and we were all very pleased to see him do so well.

LONG WEEKEND IN DECEMBER. 15th - 17th.

The management of the Mountain Park Hotel in Bulwer, where the hotel weekend in September was spent, have invited the club once again for the long weekend in December. The cost of the weekend will once again be R6 each all inclusive. If you are interested please

December Weekend. cont. 6.

contact Denise Philips before the 15th Oct. as she will have to make the arrangements soon.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MEETING.

The meeting this month was held at the Parr's home on the 19th September, and the subject of the competition was open. Twenty five slides were entered, and Margaret Moore was awarded first three places for almost equally beautiful scenes taken on her recent visit overseas. A wide selection of slides of general interest were also shown.

This report would be incomplete without a special note of thanks to Dymock and Margery who provided a wonderful tea, and to all the other members who open their homes so generously to the Club and make these meetings possible.

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TREASURE HUNT.

DATE: 13th October.  
VENUE: All meet at the Market Place at 6.30 p.m. and the fun will start.

This should be very good entertainment and there is the chance of winning a really nice prize.

After the Treasure Hunt there will be an informal brasivleis. Rolls and snacks will be provided, but please bring your own meat for the Brazi. The venue for these celebrations will be known only when the final checkpoint has been reached.

So come along all - even those without cars, we'll fit you in to the last person.

Charge, inclusive of everything - is 40c.

NATAL BIRD CLUB.

The Natal Bird Club recently contacted our Secretary and I should like to pass on to those who might be interested further information on the aims and activities of this club. It devotes its energies to field studies of birds in Natal and Zululand. Outdoor meetings, lectures and film shows are held from time to time. If you would like to attend these outings contact the Secretary, D. McCulloch, at P.O. Box 154, Durban, or phone him at 837543 after 5p.m.

GLENVIEW HIKE. 9/9/62.

A small crowd gathered at the Market Place, and we were soon bumping along the North Coast road to Inanda. At the dipping tank 32 very hot Ramblers jumped off the lorry, and Lindy led us along between the hills to the river. The countryside was crying out for rain and everything looked dry and withered, except where here and there on the evergreens fresh green branches were visible.

Quite suddenly ahead of me a crowd had gathered with anxious faces. Yes, Snakebite Rabie had found a pet! Someone had spotted a snake in the grass, and Gary soon caught it with the aid of a stick. With mixed feelings I watched as it was put into my lunch tin, and carried along. Further along the path descended through the bush, and we began bolder-hopping along rejoicing in the dappled shade. It seemed to go on for ages, but at last the river! We removed our shoes willingly and waded knee-deep upstream. Oh the lovely coolness of the water on our hot feet, and now no one was in a hurry. The splashing of our feet was a welcome sound. Then after walking the bank for a while we waded once more across the river to the wild figtree and rest.

Not everyone had remembered their costumes, so swam in whatever they thought best. Some swam fully dressed and cooled off beautifully. Though not deep the current in the river was strong enough to float us from one channel to another. Others wallowed and splashed, and had a water fight. Thanks are due to those gallants who lent us their shirts while our blouses dried.

Cont. on page 8

Editress's Corner.

Dear Ramblers,

I should like to start by saying how much I and the other members of the Editorial Committee miss working for Lee Jearey, our last Editress, who has resigned from the club. All members will miss her articles and reports in the magazine, as they are always such fun.

Next I appeal to you all to help me maintain the high standard of the magazine, by submitting articles for our newsletter. The only way in which this monthly summary of events can reflect the true spirit of the club, and the varying characteristics of its members is by publishing articles written by many different members on many different subjects.

So please come to my aid by handing in any articles, which you feel may be of interest to members, and I shall endeavour to include as many of these as I have space for. Also if you are interested in writing up hikes or socials please let me know as I am desperately short of contributors.

We were all very sorry to hear that Mr. Tankard has been in hospital, and hope that he will soon be hiking again.

Congratulations to June<sup>s</sup> Rodney on the arrival of their baby son earlier this month.

Glenview Hike. Cont.

After a reviving lunch and rest in the shade we donned our shoes and socks and began winding our way up, up to the lorry, and so on home. Another hike was behind our backs, but we will be back for more.

Still damp.

SNO' LADY



JOAN.