



PO Box 50563  
 MUSGRAVE ROAD, 4062  
 (Please note the Club's new address)  
 OCTOBER - DECEMBER 1996

Title	Committee Member	Telephone:	
		Home	Work
Chairman	Bill Hyslop	7055770	7056684
Secretary	Glenys Bentley	847632	3020111
Treasurer	Colin Turner	783517	
Day Hike Organiser	Steve Nel	7017796	
Trails Organiser	Philip Gatenby	213592	
Social Activities	Janet Marsh	7681283	
Editor	Jenny Hewitt	812478	260-2405
Marketing	Mary-Lee Arnot	211469	

#### CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

A long time ago in the early days of mountaineering, there was a famous climber called Geoffrey Winthrop Young. He had a leg shot off during World War I, but afterwards carried on climbing in the Alps with a wooden leg. He was that kind of guy. He also expressed for all of us in his poetry the sentiments which we feel in the great outdoors. If I recall correctly, after so many years, he wrote the following lines:

*There is much comfort in the high hills  
 And a great easing of the heart.  
 We look upon them and our nature fills  
 With loftier images from their life apart.  
 They set our feet on paths of freedom, bent*

*To snap the circles of our discontent!*

Our 'paths of freedom' are continually under threat. We have no 'Rights of Way' legislation, as in many countries, which preserves footpaths from the increasing tendency of landowners to close off good hiking country. We are also subject to the whims of organisations which are supposed to have "conservation" at heart, as witness the loss of several popular hikes through the Shongweni development. And, of course, after a good growing season, our routes are blocked by all kinds of biological horrors with spikes.

The reason for this comment of mine is to ask you :-

- (a) If you know friendly landowners of good hiking country, please ask them for permission, and offer to lead a hike on and around their property.
- (b) If you have any spare time at all, please volunteer to help with 'recces' either by bush-cutting, knocking on strangers' doors to ask for hiking permission, or simply driving to an attractive-looking spot to look for opportunities for new routes.

Don't forget - every Saturday is a recce day, so if you are free, phone me. See you in the bush!

Bill

<p><b>RECOMMENDED TRANSPORT FEES FOR BERG HIKES PER PERSON including toll fees</b></p> <p>Southern Berg R40.00 Central Berg R40.00 Northern Berg R45.00 The above prices include toll fees.</p>	<p><b>FOR SALE R10.00 EACH</b></p> <p>RAMBLERS Sun Hats</p> <p>Contact: Colin Turner</p>
<p><b>ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEES</b></p> <p>Country - R16 Country Couples R20 Single R20 Couples/family R25 Entrance Fee R10</p> <p>Prospective members must do THREE day hikes or one Berg Trip.</p> <p><b>MEETING PLACES :</b></p> <p>DURBAN - Musgrave Park, Berea PINETOWN - Union Main Centre Old Main Rd</p>	<p><b>HIRING OF EQUIPMENT FOR MEMBERS</b></p> <p><b>TENTS</b> R7.50 p/day deposit R50.00 Contact Gerald Hall 251089</p> <p><b>BACKPACKS</b> Between R3 and R5 p/day deposit R50.00</p> <p><b>SLEEPING MATS</b> R1.00 p/day deposit R10.00</p> <p><b>STOVE</b> with fuel R5.00 deposit R20.00 Contact Philip Gatenby</p>

## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to John Wherrie, Pat Foster, Joan McCosh, Derek McGillewie, Ann Springett, Len and Ronnie Steinhardt, Strydom Lobus, David and Cohen, Ana Fernandes, Denise Gibson, Lynn Olver, Arthur and Judy Wibberley, Michael Wakefield, Arlette Stevenson. Welcome also the following new 'aspirant' members Carole Oom, Lesley Dodds, Fred Esterhuguen, Felga Drews and Marie Thorpe. We wish you many happy years hiking with us.

## OCTOBER - DECEMBER 1996 : HIKING PROGRAMME

Please try to get to our meeting places at least 10 minutes earlier so that fees can be collected and lifts arranged timeously. Day hikers - bring 2 litres of water, a hat, and a cup for lunch time tea/coffee

**NB: PLEASE BRING CORRECT MONEY.**

### SATURDAY HIKES

DEPARTURE FROM MUSGRAVE PARK 13:30 (1:30PM)  
DEPARTURE FROM PINETOWN UNION MAIN 13:30 TO MEET AT VENUE PLACE

DATE	DESTINATION	LEADER	PHONE	COST
OCT 5	BURMAN BUSH	LEN	239551	R5
OCT 12	VIKKI'S PATH	BILL	7056684	R5
OCT 19	VIRGINIA BUSH	BARRY	849988	R5
OCT 26	MARIAN RIDGE	RON	7013346	R5
NOV 2	ARLETTE'S KLOOF	ARLETTE	2602249	R5
NOV 9	<del>ALICE-MONTEVADA</del> <i>ALICE-MONTEVADA det</i>	BILL <i>Fred</i>	7056684	R5
NOV 16	STAINBANK	JOHN	429781	R5
NOV 23	<del>SEATON PARK</del> <i>Seaton Park</i>	FRED	849724	R5
NOV 30	ST HELLIER	BARBARA	288944	R5
DEC 7	CHRISTMAS LUNCH	R J'S WORTH	BEACH	R40
DEC 14	UMGENI RIVER	MARY-LEE	211469	R5
DEC 21	UMBILO MOSS	JENNY	812478	R5
DEC 28	KLOOF 2 -FALLS	GAVIN	284342	R5

BRING: 1 LITRE OF WATER - A MUNCHIE FOR HALF TIME AND WEAR COMFY CLOTHES AND SHOES - REMEMBER YOUR HAT SUNTAN LOTION & TABBARD - ENJOY YOUR AFTERNOON

*Bill*  
8  
26  
34  
15  
17  
8  
16  
15  
10  
16  
13  
7

### HIKE LEADERS' TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Steve Nel	7017796 (H)	Tom de Waal	474766 (H)
Philip Gatenby	213592 (H)	Nevil Walmsley	7052919 (H)
Bill Hyslop	7056770 (H)	Glenys Bentley	847632 (H) 3020111 (W)
John Van Zyl	429781 (H)	Colin Turner	783517
Margret Kirsten	3033416 (H) 211371 (W)	Barry Busby	849988 (H) 722382 (W)
Adrian Rowe	7644721 (H)	Tony Livingstone	251634 (H) 291131 (W)
Dave Easton	728170 (H)	Ian Stewart	0323 98058
Jean Foster	721539 (H) 7052433 (W)	Audrey Vickers	283187 (H)

### PROGRAMME OF SUNDAYS AND WEEKEND HIKES

**NB - All meeting times, unless otherwise stated are :  
Durban 8.00 and Pinetown 8h30**

**M = Members V = Visitors. (NB : Hike leaders telephone numbers are on page 3)**

DATE	MEETING DETAILS, COST, HIKE LEADER	DESCRIPTION
Sun 6 October	Bill Hyslop M R20 V R25	ISMONT LOW (ESTON AREA) - in the beautiful Nqwahumbe River Valley, with magnificent gorge scenery. <i>Rating - Medium</i>
<b>Weekend</b> 12/13 Oct	<b>Ian Stewart</b>	<b>Goat's Cave Weekend.</b> One of the most scenic caves there is and also the leader's favourite.
Sun 13 October	Adrian Rowe M R10 V R15	KLOOF AREA - Hike from Clive Cheeseman Hut, up Fields Hill and down to Krantzklouf Gorge <i>Rating : Medium</i>
Sun 20 Oct	M R18 V R23 BILL HYSLOP	KIZWANE - this lies in the Valley of A Thousand Hills <i>RATING : Medium to Strenuous</i>
<b>Weekend</b> 26/27 Oct	<b>Tom de Waal</b>	Clearwater Camp (near Port Edward). Due to popular demand, and for those who could not make it in Jan, hiking in magnificent scenery and timed to co-incide with the flower season. <b>NOT TO BE MISSED. BOOK EARLY</b>
<b>Weekend</b> 26/27 Oct	<b>Barry Busby</b>	Drakensberg Gardens area - This is Barry's cave-dwelling weekend which had to be cancelled in July due to heavy snow.
Sun 27 Oct	<b>Ptn 7h30 Dbn 8h00</b> M R25 V R30 STEVE NEL	ORIBI GORGE (Port Shepstone way) <i>RATING : Medium hike</i> <b>NB - R4 ENTRANCE FEE</b>
Sun 28 November	M R7 V R10 JEAN FOSTER	SORA'S POOLS KLOOF GORGE AREA - Jean's well loved hike into the lovely gorge. Bring your swim suit and have a dip at lunch time. <i>RATING : Medium</i>

<b>Weekend</b> 9/10 Nov	<b>Tony Livingstone</b>	Giant's Castle Area - we can now take advantage of the new availability of camping in this area.
Sun 10 Nov	<b>Dbn 7h30 Ptn 8h00</b> M R20 V R25 STEVE NEL	MOUNT ASHLEY in the Midmar area. Wonderful scenic views. <i>RATING : MEDIUM</i>
<b>Weekend</b> 16/17 Nov	<b>Margret Kirsten</b> M R25 V R30	Vic's Hike - so named after Vic Conrad who led several camping meets in the Mlalai area of the North Coast. Mixture of beach and woodland walks. Sat morning departure
Sun 17 Nov	M R15 V R20 <b>TOM DE WAAL - NB :</b> <b>Ptn 7h30 Dbn 8h00</b>	LIGHTHOUSE TRAIL - from Scottburgh to Umkomaas, finishing with a braai at the Empisini Reserve. Bring your meat and beers. <i>RATING : EASY</i>
Sun 24 Nov	M R20 V R25 <b>TONY LIVINGSTONE</b>	WORLD'S VIEW - Pietermaritzburg. Join Tony on this relaxing hike. <i>RATING : MEDIUM</i>
<b>Weekend</b> 30 Nov/1 Dec (wkend)	R25 accommodation cost per night <b>NEVIL WALMSLEY</b> Send your deposit of R25 to Nevil at 37 Harborth Road, New Germany, 3610	<b>CHRISTMAS PARTY AT ROSELAND OUTDOOR ADVENTURE CENTRE</b> (14 kms past Richmond). Get into the swing of Christmas with your Club's party at Roselands, the farm enjoyed so much in July. A festive party is promised on Sat Night, music courtesy of Mike Morillion. Bring your hiking and dancing gear!
Sun 1 Dec	M R15 V R20 Plus R4 entrance fee <b>PHILIP GATENBY</b>	BAYNESFIELD - Hike in the lovely rolling hills of the Thorneville area. <b>Do remember the R4 entrance fee. RATING : MEDIUM</b>
Sun 8 Dec	M R5 V R10 <b>Ptn 8h00 Dbn 8h30</b> <b>AUDREY VICKERS</b>	UMBILO MOSS TRAIL - <i>RATING : EASY</i>
Sun 15 Dec	<b>Ptn 8h00 Durban 8h30</b> M R5 V R10 <b>GLENYS BENTLEY</b>	DURBAN HIKE FROM BURMAN BUSH AND INCLUDING A BEACH WALK <i>RATING : EASY.</i> <i>18 Jan</i>
Sun 22 Dec	M R10 V R15 <b>MARGRET KIRSTEN</b> <b>DEN 6AM P 6.30AM</b>	MOLWENI - KRANTZKLOOF - Margret's popular speciality. <i>RATING : Medium. NB STARTING TIMES</i>
Sun 29 Dec	M R10 V R15 <b>DAVE EASTON</b>	SHONGWENI - <i>RATING : MEDIUM - NB - there is a reserve fee.</i>

### ADVANCE NOTICE

The following trips are being considered for next year :

\* The second leg of George Archibald's Wild Coast route in May. Also a repeat of his trip from "Sani Pass to the sea" in August.

\* Bill is planning a trip to Corsica in September, to cross the mountains of this beautiful island from one end to the other. Total duration of the trip : 2 weeks.

\* Bernie Wakefield is considering a visit to Greece sometime during 1997

\* Jenny Hewitt is planning to hike in Wales next year (possibly the Pembrokeshire Coast) and wondered if anyone wanted to join her. The scenery is spectacular.

Interested? Then contact the leaders as follows:

Bill - 7056684 (W)  
 George: 0323 611621 (h) 0323 611631 (w)  
 Bernie: 7051624 (h) 7253587 (w) Jenny: 260-2405 (w) 812478 (h)

**PROPOSED HIKING IN THE CLARENS AREA  
 FROM FRIDAY December 27 TO WEDNESDAY 1 January**

There are several hiking trails in the Clarens area, and Clarens itself is an interesting village, close to the Golden Gate Park. Any takers? If so, contact Jenny Hewitt at 260-2405 (W) and 812478 (H)

**SOCIAL CALENDAR**

Due to the ever-increasing number of social events, a special Social Diary has been set out for your convenience. If you would like any further information, please do not hesitate to phone the organiser.

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
Tuesday 1 Oct	SHOW - <i>Stark Raving Mark</i>	Phone Janet Marsh - 7681283
Wednesday 2 Oct	Opera - <i>Carmen</i>	Phone Janet Marsh - 7681283
Friday 4 October	<b>SCRABBLE</b>	Monica Matthewson's home Tel 422333
Sunday 6 Oct	<b>SUNSET PROMS</b>	Village Green 17h30 Phone Janet Marsh - 7681283
Saturday 12 Oct	<i>Classical music evenings</i>	Phone Mary-Lee 211469 (H)
Tuesday 15 Oct	<i>Andre - Hilarious Hypnotist</i>	Phone Janet Marsh - 7681283
Saturday 19 Oct	Saturday Afternoon Walk led by Barry Busby, followed by a braai at his house	Join Barry on his walk through Virginia Bush and stay on for a braai afterwards. Meet at Musgrave Park at 13h30. Phone 722382
Friday 1 Nov	<b>SCRABBLE</b>	Marge' Blake's Home Tel 863216

Saturday 2 Nov	<b>SOCIAL GET-TOGETHER AND BRAAI</b> at Denise Straub's home at 6.00 pm. (bring costumes in it is a hot day)	Denise has offered us the use of her home for our get-together. The address is 14 Kiaat Place, Durban North. Phone Denise 847768
Sunday 3 Nov	<b>Sunset Proms</b>	Village Green 17h30 Phone Janet Marsh - 7681283
Saturday 9 Nov	<b>A day's walk from PYC to the Bluff followed by a braai at the PYC</b>	Meet at PYC at 9.00 am. This outing has not yet been finalised so for more info contact John Van Zyl on 429781 (H) or Jenny Hewitt (812478 H)
Saturday 9 Nov	<b>CLASSICAL MUSIC EVENINGS</b>	18h00 - phone Mary-Lee 211469 (H)
Sunday 10 Nov	<b>SUNSET PROMS</b>	Village Green 17h30 Phone Janet Marsh - 7681283
Wednesday 13 Nov	<b>HAPPY HOUR - POINT YACHT CLUB</b>	A repeat of a very popular social function! Meet at the PYC from 5.15 pm onwards. Hosts are Denise and John Van Zyl.
Friday 22 November	<b>PUB EVENING AT THATCHERS + LIVE MUSIC</b>	Meet at Thatchers from 5.15 pm onwards and stay on for supper (meals are VERY reasonable). For more info phone Denise on 429781 (H)
Saturday 23 Nov	<b>Saturday Afternoon hike along the beach from Salt Rock to Sheffield Beach, followed by a braai.</b>	Meet at Paula Baxter's home at Salt Rock at 1.30 pm. Paula will lead the afternoon's hike. For more info, phone Paula at 0322-5644 (H) or Jenny Hewitt (812478 H)
Saturday 30 November	<b>The 'mother of all parties' at Roselands</b>	Don't forget the Christmas Party at Roselands (see Hiking Section)
Tuesday 3 Dec	<b>Show - Unforgettable Two</b>	Phone Janet Marsh to book - 7681283
Friday 6 December	<b>SCRABBLE</b>	Janet Marsh's home. Phone Janet Marsh - 7681283
SATURDAY 7 DEC	<b>DURBAN RAMBLERS CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT R.J.'s, North Beach</b>	See below for more information. Booking essential by Frid 29 Nov Phone Janet Marsh, Jenny Hewitt or Glenys Bentley
Saturday 14 Dec	<b>Classical Music Evening</b>	Phone Mary Lee 211469 (H)

Saturday 14 Dec	<b>Sat Afternoon harbour hike + braai at PYC afterwards.</b>	John's Saturday afternoon hikes are becoming increasingly popular. Meet at the PYC at 1.30 pm. Bring money for refreshments en route Plus braai meat. Phone John on
-----------------	--	---



\*\*\*\*\* THE SOCIAL EVENT OF THE YEAR \*\*

**DURBAN RAMBLERS CHRISTMAS LUNCH  
SATURDAY 7 December**



After a very successful hiking programme this year, get into the mood of the Festive Season and join us for a **LONG, LAZY CHRISTMAS LUNCH**. No hiking afterwards!! The meal will be a 3-course set menus, with three to choose from costing R30, R40 or R50.

**Date :** Saturday 7 December      **Time :** 12.30 pm

**Venue :** RJ 's Steakhouse, North Beach - (It is behind the Pavilion Hotel, Old Fort Road, - plenty of parking at the back of RJ's.)

Please RSVP to either Janet Marsh - 7681283 or Jenny Hewitt 260-2405 (w) 812478 (H) or Glenys Bentley - 3020111 (w) 847632 (h) **BY FRIDAY 29 November AT THE LATEST.**

Once you have made your booking, please send a R20 deposit (cheques made out to Durban Ramblers Hiking Club) to The Treasurer, Durban Ramblers Hiking Club, P O Box 50563, Musgrave Road, 4062. Cheques may also be handed to any of the Hike Leaders on the hikes. If you choose this later option, please put your money in an envelope with your details on the outside.

#### BRIDGE FOR BEGINNERS

Is there anyone interested in playing Bridge ?? Beginners welcome - as well as some help with teaching and showing us how. Contact Mary-Lee.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### HONORARY AUDITOR

We are pleased to announce that Maureen Thomson has kindly agreed to help us in the capacity. She served on the committee of the Mountain Club for many years and recently as the Hon Treasurer, she was responsible for their new computerised accounting system. Maureen and her husband were good friends of our late auditor, Vic Conrad. We welcome Maureen to our deliberations and look forward to benefiting from her experience.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/NOTICES/ADVERTISEMENTS**

##### **McMuddles-on-the-Hill (B & B)**

Mine Hosts : Mick and Gloria McConnell. (Cranford Country House Turn-off)  
Phone 0332-302403 Fax 0332-305342

En-suite Double Rooms. Continental Breakfast R90 Full Breakfast R100  
Room only R70.

Full Restaurant/Pub in walking distance. Private Guest Lounge. Billiard Room, Library, Pool, Squash/Tennis Courts, Bowls/Croquet. Safe walks and excellent birding area.  
Rotarians - Pilots and Ramblers welcome

**NB - Mick and Gloria are offering Ramblers a 'special price' but only if they arrive armed with this magazine.**

\*\*\*\*

**FOR SALE :** Size 6.5 New Hiking Boots - German made GT Tex Brand. Only R125.  
Phone Gretel Hartmann - 234660

\*\*\*

#### **IN MEMORIUM** **WIKTON (VIC) CONRAD**

Vic passed away peacefully, although very suddenly, at the age of 72 years - a great shock to all who knew him.

Born in Poland, he fought for his country during World War II, during which he was also stationed in Italy.

After the war he spent some years in England where he worked and studied, and also met his South Africa born wife, Joan. After they were married they settled in Durban in 1952. Vic worked for the Durban Corporation well over 30 years and was a Senior Accountant.

His love and support for Poland always remained with him and he was extensively involved with the Polish community in South Africa.

Vic was given numerous awards, and gold and silver crosses during his lifetime. In 1994 he received from the Polish President the Officer's Cross of Merit for social activities among Poles in Natal - the only one ever awarded in South Africa. A devout Christian, he did much good work for his parish church.

His great love of mountains stayed with him all his life. He was for many years a member of the Mountain Club of SA (Natal Section) as well as a life member of the Durban Ramblers Hiking Club.

We will remember Vic as a true gentleman and a great friend. We will miss his witty sense of humour and cheerful smile, but memories of Vic on our hikes and trails will always remain. He will walk with us in spirit.

Margret Kirsten

\*\*\*\*\*

In the previous magazine we printed a lament which was contributed by Vic. This is the response to it, which was submitted by Margret Kirsten:

REPLY TO ANONY MOUSE .....

*When camping with a crowd, my brother,  
Don't pitch your tent next to another  
Or nightly sounds you'll likely hear  
From other tents pitched quite near.*

*I get there early to choose my spot  
When you arrive, please do not  
Pitch your tent on top of mine,  
This is enough to make me whine.*

*I like to make a noise in bed,  
Country air goes to my head,  
So please respect my privacy  
And pitch your tent away from me.*

Anon

Last, but not least, Frank Price has sent a letter to members of our Club. He writes:

Dear Friends, I am leaving Africa with many fond memories with the wonderful experiences which you have shared and helped me to experience. I say a huge Thank You to everyone - from the time we first met, you made me welcome and now I feel that I have become part of an even "larger" family. I look forward to seeing you all again in the not too distant future (I hope!). Go well, eh, and make the most of your hikes - will be with you in spirit in the Berg, 1000 Hills or Umbilo Moss Trail.

Yours affectionately, Frank Price.

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to the Ramblers who successfully completed the Guardbank Capital to Coast Ultra Walk on 3/4 August. **John Joyce** was the first Rambler to complete in a record time of 11 hours 59 seconds; he was placed 104th. The results of the other Ramblers are as follows: **Coleen Seath** - 205 in 12 hours 21, **Norman Radford** 439 in 13 hours 9, **Dora Tharralt** 631 in 13 hours 40, **Tony Livingstone** 632 in 13 hours 40, **Georgette de Vos** 696 in 13 hours 48, **Carol Oom** 977 in 14 hours 19, **Steve Nel** 1146 in 14 hours 36 and **Christine Giblin** 1179 in 14 hours 40.

If any Rambler has been omitted from this list, please accept our apologies.

**NB - CHANGES OF ADDRESS**  
Please send address changes to  
The Secretary, P O Box 50563, Musgrave Road, 4062

