

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE
DURBAN RAMBLERS' CLUB, HELD DURING THE LUNCH-BREAK
ON THE INZINYATI FALLS HIKE ON SUNDAY, 13TH MAY, 1956.

37 members were present.

A suggestion was put forward that this Meeting be postponed until the Vice-Chairman returned from overseas so that he might state his views on Clause 6 which proposed the introduction of an Entrance Fee. As it appeared, this suggested "no confidence" in the Committee - a vote was taken as a result of which the Meeting proceeded.

The proposed amendments to the Constitution & Rules of the Club are attached hereto, and the result of this Meeting was as follows:-

Clause 4. Membership: Amendment approved and passed.

Clause 6. Entrance Fee and Subscription: The reason for proposing the introduction of an Entrance Fee was queried and it was pointed out that most Clubs of any standing charged an Entrance Fee and it was felt that prestige would be added to this Club. The extra amount of 10/- should not prove a hardship to most prospective members, and might serve as a deterrent to people who joined casually and soon lost interest in the Club. A query was raised regarding the Club's finances at the moment, and although the Treasurer confirmed that they were in a sound position, it seemed a wise policy to consolidate that position in view of past financial difficulties. The extra money accruing would help to offset the general requirements of the Club, e.g. camp equipment, etc., and any financial crises which might occur. The Treasurer pointed out that the Native Reserve hikes are run at a loss as the Club subsidises the payment, and furthermore there is likely to be an increase in transport charges due to a recent levying of Third Party Insurance on the lorries by the Road Transportation Board.

A vote was taken and the amendment passed, 31 voting in favour and 4 against it.

Clause 9. Executive Committee: Amendment approved and passed.

Clause 12. Quorum: Amendment approved and passed.

Clause 13. Notice of Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting:
Amendment approved and passed.

Clause 14. Annual General Meeting: Amendments (a) and (d) were approved and passed, but it was decided to waive amendment (e) substituting in its place the word "General".

Clause 15. Procedure at Annual, or Extraordinary, General Meetings:
Amendment approved and passed.

Clause 17. Duties of Secretary: Amendment approved and passed.

Clause 18. Honoraria: Amendment approved and passed.

Clause 19. Duties of Treasurer: It was suggested that this amendment should be omitted as it seemed unnecessary. As a result of a vote taken this amendment was omitted.

Clause 21. Bank Account: Amendment approved and passed.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE DURBAN RAMBLERS' CLUB WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, 13TH MAY, 1956, DURING THE LUNCH-BREAK ON THE HIKE TO THE INZINYATI FALLS.

(This Meeting should not be of long duration)

A G E N D A:

Proposed amendments to various Clauses in the Constitution and Rules, to read as follows:-

Clause 4: MEMBERSHIP.

(alteration in the wording of the second paragraph).

No person shall be proposed until he/she has taken part in at least one HIKE controlled by the Club. In addition to the hike fee, such persons shall be charged a visitors' fee of 6d. per head, and payment shall be made to the Treasurer on the hike. No person may attend more than 3 hikes as a visitor during any one half-year of the Club.

Clause 6: ENTRANCE FEE AND SUBSCRIPTION.

An Entrance Fee of 10/- shall be payable by ALL persons on admission to the Club.

An Annual Subscription of £1.0.0. shall be levied on members which shall be payable in advance on or before January 1st of each year. Persons joining in the second half of the year are still liable for a full subscription, but shall be credited with 10/- for the following year.

The subscription rate for married couples shall be £1.0.0. per couple per annum.

Clause 9: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The entire management of the Club and its property shall be deputed to an Executive Committee consisting of a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Leader, two sub-Leaders, Camp Captain, Chairman of Entertainments, and four other members. Of this entire Committee, at least two members must be ladies. This Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting, but shall have power to appoint a member to fill any vacancy which might occur on the Committee.

The Executive Committee shall meet at least once per month, or whenever summoned by the Secretary. Any three members of this Committee may request the Secretary to summon a Meeting. Members failing to attend any three consecutive Meetings, not including specially summoned Meetings, without having obtained

Clause 12: QUORUM.

At each Meeting of the Executive Committee, 5 shall constitute a quorum, and the Chairman shall have a deliberate or casting vote; if he is not present the Meeting shall call on the Vice-Chairman to officiate, and if he too is absent the Meeting shall appoint one of its members to preside.

A quorum at an Annual, or Extraordinary, General Meeting shall be 21.

Clause 13: NOTICE OF ANNUAL OR EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING:

The Secretary shall, at least seven days before any Annual or Extraordinary General Meeting send to every member at his/her address in the Club books, a notice stating the time, place, and agenda of such Meeting.

Clause 14: ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The following business shall be transacted at such Annual General Meetings:-

- (a) The presentation and adoption of the Chairman's Report.
- (d) The election of Officers for the ensuing year for the Executive, Camp, and Entertainments Committees; and the election of the Editor of the Club's Newsletter.
- (e) Deal with any other business which may be discussed and voted upon.

Clause 15. PROCEDURE AT ANNUAL, OR EXTRAORDINARY, GENERAL MEETINGS.

At all such Meetings the chair shall be taken by the Chairman, or if he is not present by the Vice-Chairman, or if he is also absent by an Acting Chairman. Every member shall have one vote, and in equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote. Voting shall be by a division which shall be indicated by a show of hands, or if the Meeting so desires, by voice; however, if any member present so desires, the voting shall be by ballot.

In the case of members who are not present at the Meeting but whose names are given for nomination purposes, such nominations must be supported by the written acceptance of the member concerned.

Clause 17: DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY.

- (a) A register showing the name, address, telephone numbers, and occupation of all members, and the date at which he/she became a member.

The Secretary shall keep all records properly up to date.

Clause 18: HONORARIA.

PAGE THREE:

Clause 19: DUTIES OF THE TREASURER.

He shall send accounts to those members whose Subscriptions are outstanding.

Clause 21: BANK ACCOUNT.

A Bank Account shall be kept at such Bank as shall from time to time be determined by the Committee, and shall be operated on by two of the following - Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER OF MEMBERS PRESENT AT EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL
MEETING OF THE DURBAN RAMBLERS' CLUB HELD DURING THE LUNCH-BREAK
ON THE HIKE TO THE INZINYATI FALLS ON SUNDAY, 13TH MAY, 1956:

Dennis Rachmann (Acting Chairman)

Heather Henry (Acting Secretary)

Rae Adams.
David Asher.
Joy Goddard.
Valerie Brown.
Jane Richards.
Meri Vaughan.
Edgar West.
Maureen Pring.
Gordon Payne.
Dulcie Ryall.
Les Ryall.
John Scott.
Wally Van Zyl.
Fred Ferns.
Mick Thomas.
Len Holland.
Bob Ferns.
Mrs. Munro.

Helen Laatz.
Verna Hammer.
Gladys Ross.
Bill Marrs.
Mrs. Marrs.
Mervyn Campion.
Robin Philp.
Maureen Laatz.
Keith Worthington.
Graham Bayman.
Lorraine McNally.
David Kershaw.
Sheila Evans.
Brian Clark.
Lynnette Excell.
Dennis Reed.
Mr. Munro.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DURBAN
RAMBLERS' CLUB, HELD IN THE CAMERA CLUB ROOM, ESSEX
HOUSE, SMITH STREET, DURBAN, AT 8 P.M., ON FRIDAY,
24TH FEBRUARY, 1956.

39 members were present, as per Attendance Register.
Apologies for absence had been received from Doc Squire,
David Geard, and John Scott.

The Chairman declared the Meeting open at 8.15 p.m.

MINUTES: The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 17th February, 1955, were read, and moved for adoption by Rae Adams, seconded by Avalon Gough-Jones. Passed.

MATTERS ARISING THEREFROM: (a) Ramblers' Sports Club: The Chairman mentioned that the Ramblers' Sports Club at Montclair had agreed to discuss the matter of changing their name, and were advising us of their decision after their Annual General Meeting.

(b) Publicity: The Club's activities had been well advertised during 1955 through the medium of the "Natal Daily News" to whom details of the hike are sent every fortnight for inclusion in their Thursday issue's column, "What's on over the Weekend". Steve Harper, a reporter on this newspaper, had also written a comprehensive article on the Club. Through negotiations by Pieter Breytenbach, the Club had also received publicity by "The African Mirror", when a Newsreel Cameraman accompanied members on a hike.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: The Chairman read his Report on the Club's activities during 1955, and thanked Committee Members for their co-operation.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Copies of the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet for 1955 were circulated for inspection amongst members present, and it was gratifying to observe a profit of £61.8.9. The Treasurer pointed out that this was mainly due to the increase in annual Subscriptions, and the great financial success of the Spring Ball. Avalon Gough-Jones queried the figure given in the Balance Sheet as the value of Camp Equipment, and felt it was under-estimated - it was pointed out that the equipment is depreciated at 25% each year. There was an increase in the number of Bad Debts written off, and the Treasurer stressed the importance of members resigning officially if they no longer held interest in the Club.

The Financial Statement was moved for adoption by Ernest Clayton, seconded by Gordon Payne. Passed.

APPOINTMENT OF CLUB AUDITOR: Mr. Dennison was unanimously elected as Auditor for the current year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The 1956 Office Bearers and Committees were elected (as per attached list) by the members present.

GENERAL: Avalon Gough-Jones mentioned that if the Club required further publicity, his contacts at the "Natal Daily News" and "The Natal Mercury" might be able to assist.

He enquired what steps had been taken to obtain relief from the payment of the 2/6d. Native Reserve entrance levy, and both the Chairman and Secretary advised in detail of the correspondence which had passed between the Club and the Departments of Native Affairs, and Education of Arts & Science, the S.A. Sports Federation, and Dr. Vernon Shearer, and explained the present position.

Mick Thomas drew attention to the fact that it was always left to a few members to tidy up the picnic spot on hikes, and suggested that in future no-one should be allowed to set off until

GENERAL: (Continued)

Lindie Lindhorst suggested that as foodstuff costs had increased of late, that Camp Fees should be raised accordingly. After discussion it was agreed to increase the Easter Camp Fee to £3.0.0. for paid-up members, and to charge visitors £3.12.6.

The Chairman mentioned that the Easter camp-site would be fairly near the Cathedral Peak Hotel, and stressed that, although members would be permitted to visit the Hotel, the use of it for bathing and dancing was not at our disposal, and that if anyone was found violating this rule they would be debarred from attending future camps arranged by the Club.

Avalon Gough-Jones suggested that we should never alight from or board the lorries on the main road, but Lindie Lindhorst pointed out that it was not always possible to do so on the side-roads.

Billy Langlois mentioned that members had lately adopted the practice of sitting on the sides of the lorries, and pointed out that through this, if caught, we could be fined. It was decided that in future, Executive Committee Members were to be responsible for seeing that members did not sit on the sides.

The Chairman mentioned that Moira Soffe had offered to instruct any members interested in how to treat snakebites. Mention of this is to be made in the Newsletter.

The Meeting closed at 11 p.m.

READ AND VERIFIED:

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CHAIRMAN:

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

Presented at the Durban Ramblers' Club's Annual General Meeting held at the Camera Club Room, Essex House, Smith Street, Durban, at 8 p.m. on Friday, 24th February, 1956.

"Ladies & Gentlemen,

It is indeed a pleasure to report to this A.G.M. on the activities of the Club during the past year, and I thank you all for your attendance here this evening.

I am very pleased to say that we now have a membership of 190, comprising 165 full and 25 country members. This includes 60 new members who joined our Club during 1955. This increase in new membership was probably due to our press advertising.

Hikes: During the year we held 18 hikes, mostly into areas outside Native Reserves to obviate having to pay the 2/6d. per person to the Department of Native Affairs. This was rather difficult for the Committee to arrange and necessitated us having to revisit hikes more often than usual. But in spite of this we had an average attendance of 47, the lowest being 32. The record hike being to Shongweni Dam when 82 people attended.

On June 7th the PMB. Ramblers joined forces with us for a combined hike to Hope Valley. We, in our turn, sent 50 members to PMB. on November 5th for a very pleasant weekend with our friends; this included a very enjoyable Social Dance at the Collegians Club and a somewhat short but very nice hike to Karkloof Falls the next day.

Annual Amble: This was held on our usual Crestholme Township circuit on June 26th, with a good attendance. After very keen competition throughout the race, Dorothy and George Hay went on to win both the Men and Womens' Races with very fast times in both cases.

Camps: We held three Camps during 1955, under canvas. The first, our very popular Easter Camp, was held at Drakensberg Gardens, and was attended by 65 members and their friends. The weather held good for a really pleasant long weekend, and everyone returned home feeling that this was a really memorable Camp.

Our second Camp was held at Nzuzi from 9th - 11th July, with a small attendance of 17. Our last but very enjoyable Camp being held at Oribi Gorge (a very popular spot with some of the older members) during the long weekend in October, with 50 people attending.

As well as our Camps under canvas, 43 members enjoyed a lovely long weekend at The Grove Guest Farm at Mooi River. Here we tasted some of the home comforts and good food which made the weekend a very pleasant change from the usual run of camping.

Entertainments: This very able Committee arranged six well-attended Dances during the year. The highlight being the Annual Spring Ball on October 1st at the Westville Town Hall which showed a substantial profit to the Club. Out of the remaining five Dances, two were held at the Westville Hotel in July and December, both with quite good attendances, and the remaining three at the Norwegian Hall, one of which was a very happy Fancy Dress Dance.

Our able friends also ran a Beetle Drive and a Scavenger Hunt, as well as a very well-attended Film Show at the Technical College. Here our budding photographers showed us some of their

General: We have, during the past year, received considerable publicity through the medium of the Press in the advertising of hikes, and of course our classified advert publicising the Annual Dance. We also received a write-up in the "Daily News" about the Club's activities which was very well received by members and the community of Natal as a whole. One of the "African Mirror" Newsreel Cameramen accompanied us on a hike to McIntosh Falls and took some very complimentary shots of our members amongst typical hiking scenery.

Entry into Reserves: Everyone is aware that we have made representation to the Secretary for Native Affairs through Dr. Vernon Shearer, to receive some relief of payment of the 2/6d. fee charged on any person entering a Native Reserve. We have sent endless correspondence to the Departments of Native Affairs and Education of Arts & Science on this matter and were recommended to join a National Body incorporating various recreational Clubs throughout the country. Before doing this, however, we wrote to Dr. Shearer for advice on this matter and are now awaiting further development in the near future.

The Committee have made every endeavour to arrange hikes outside the Reserves to keep the cost of hikes as low as possible, and I trust that members will bear with us in paying the additional charge when a hike takes us into the Native Reserve.

Transport: Generally costs, as you know, have been steadily rising throughout the past year, and transport costs are no exception. The Committee feels therefore that the cost of Camps might have to be increased in the near future. This matter will be taken up by the incoming new Committee. Transport over the past year has greatly improved with the addition to Broadway Cartage Contractors' fleet of the new large Diesel lorries. Gone perhaps are the days when we used to push the lorries nearly all the way to Camps, and nearly always experienced a minor breakdown on hikes.

I would like now to take this opportunity of thanking our very able Leaders for their guidance on hikes, in particular Lindie, our right-hand man. A pat on the back to Robin, our Camp Captain, and his able Committee for the splendid Camps we all enjoyed, and a vote of thanks to Heather and her Entertainments Committee who worked so hard behind the scenes arranging Dances, Beetle Drives, and other forms of entertainment.. All our thanks go to Dudley for his book-keeping and control of our finances in between his very important studies during his first year as Treasurer of the Club. I know you will all join me in personally thanking our very competent Secretary, Margaret, whose untiring efforts on behalf of the Club in arranging transport for members on long weekends to The Grove, Pmb., etc., as well as the general Secretarial work which she has carried out so efficiently during 1955 receives our undying gratitude.

During the past year the Committee and Members have noticed a revival of the old Rambler spirit amongst us. This is most gratifying and I hope that this spirit will continue to spread during the present year.

Finally; We shall shortly be holding the election of Committees and Leaders, and I ask everyone here present to give careful consideration to any position they are asked to stand nomination for, before turning the job down. Everyone of us receives a lot of pleasure out of the Club's various activities, and we must be prepared to give something in return. So, please think carefully before saying "no"!

Thank you everyone."

Harry E. Woodward

BAIANCE SHEET OF THE DURBAN RAMBLERS CLUB

AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1955

<u>FUND</u>	117.12. 8.	<u>FIXED ASSETS:</u>	
Income over expenditure	61. 8. 9.	Camping Equipment	6.19. 6.
	179. 1. 5.	Tents	5.14. -.
		Badge Die	11. 5. 9.
		Badges	18.18. -.
			42.17. 3.

<u>CHILDREN'S</u>		<u>INVESTMENT:</u>	
<u>AD</u>			
	2. 2. -.	Cash on Fixed Deposit	
<u>ADITORS</u>		with South African	
	132.16.11.	Permanent Building	
<u>MONS PAID IN</u>		Society	110. -. -.
	16.15. -.		

		<u>CURRENT ASSETS:</u>	
		Sundry Debtors	8. 8. -.
		Subscription Outstanding	16.12. 6.
		Cash at Standard Bank of	
		S.A.Ltd.,Durban	134.18. 3.
		Cash on Hand	17.19. 4.
			177.18. 1.

WOODWARD (Chairman)
CORE (Hon. Secretary)

£330.15. 4.

£330.15. 4.

(C. DENNISON C.A. (S.A.)
N. CLUB AUDITOR : 22ND FEBRUARY, 1956)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT OF THE DURBAN RAMBLERS CLUB

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1955

[illegible]



FOUNDED 1932

DURBAN RAMBLERS CLUB

CHAIRMAN:
F. C. WOODWARD
PHONE 2-1651 (BUSINESS)

HON. SECRETARY:
MARGARET MOORE
PHONE 36676 (RESIDENCE)

HON. TREASURER:
DUDLEY SAVILLE
PHONE 21353 (BUSINESS)

P.O. BOX 1063,
DURBAN.

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DURBAN RAMBLERS' CLUB, TO BE HELD IN THE CAMERA CLUB ROOM, 118 ESSEX HOUSE, 409/11 SMITH STREET (i.e. opposite Greenacres), DURBAN, ON FRIDAY, 24TH FEBRUARY, 1956, AT 8 P.M.

A G E N D A:

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in the Camera Club Room, London Assurance Chambers, Smith Street, Durban, on Thursday, 17th February, 1955.
2. Chairman's Report.
3. Reading and adoption of Financial Report and Balance Sheet for 1955.
4. Honorariums.
5. Appointment of Club Auditor for 1956.
6. Election of Officers.
7. General.

MARGARET V. MOORE.

HON. SECRETARY:

NOTE: Unless otherwise stated, all outings will start from the City Market Warwick Avenue, at 8.30 a.m.