



P O Box 50563  
 MUSGRAVE ROAD 4062  
 www.durbanramblers.co.za

Banking Details:  
 Standard Bank, Musgrave Road  
 Branch Code: 04262610  
 Account No: 051257653

**THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE DURBAN RAMBLERS' HIKING CLUB**

**APRIL – JUNE 2007**

Portfolio	Name	Home	Cell & e Mail
Chairman	Jon Stevens		082 459 1522 <a href="mailto:Jon.Stevens@bcx.co.za">Jon.Stevens@bcx.co.za</a>
Secretary	Lisa Raubenheimer	3123145	0761747022 <a href="mailto:lisaarau@absa.co.za">lisaarau@absa.co.za</a>
Treasurer	Biff Maggs	312 1503	082 900 6965 <a href="mailto:biff@eastcoast.co.za">biff@eastcoast.co.za</a>
Sun Hike Organiser	John van Zyl	4690234	0731291928 <a href="mailto:secretary@montolairspa.co.za">secretary@montolairspa.co.za</a>
Sat Hike Organiser	Jean Elliot	209 2828	083 227 0738
Trails/ Organiser	Kim Gibb	031-3277582	082 655 3796 <a href="mailto:gibbk@ampath.co.za">gibbk@ampath.co.za</a>
Publicity Organiser	Anne Thompson	031-7655133	<a href="mailto:phenduke@durbs.com">phenduke@durbs.com</a>
Magazine Editor	Jenny Rooks	303 3258	084 952 0622 <a href="mailto:jennyva@telkomsa.net">jennyva@telkomsa.net</a>
Social Organiser	Mike Serrurier	312 4923	082 822 3106 <a href="mailto:mikeser@mweb.co.za">mikeser@mweb.co.za</a>
Ordinary Member	Ingrid D'cathe	262 3753	083 789 3753

**New Members**

A warm welcome to Bruce Aiken, Etienne Hibbert and Billy Turck. May you have many happy years of hiking with Durban Ramblers.

**75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations – Saturday 19 May 2007**

To mark this milestone in the Club's history, there will be a morning hike starting at 9.30 am, followed by a lunchtime braai at the Springside Nature Reserve in Hillcrest at 1.00 pm. The morning of walk 2 - 2½ hours will be undertaken within and without the reserve.

Directions to Springside Nature Reserve – from the Old Main Road in Hillcrest, turn opposite the Heritage Market into Stonewall Road. At the T-junction, turn right into Springside Road and follow the road until you reach the reserve, which is clearly marked on a board on your left, near a sharp right-hand bend.

The Club will provide a braai pack, rolls, and plates, which will be free to all current paid-up members. Members must provide their own liquid refreshments and salads for sharing. Bring your own cutlery, braai tongs and chairs. Vegetarians are to provide their own food requirements.

Family members and visitors who are not official paid-up club members are welcome to attend but will be charged R25 for a braai pack, etc. Alternatively, they are welcome to bring their own. Past members are especially welcome to attend. We hope that members will stay on after the braai and continue socialising.

NE. Club members attending the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebratory braai must contact Colin Turner on 031-7083517 to confirm their attendance for catering purposes. Please leave your contact details on his answer phone and he will contact you. The closing date is 30<sup>th</sup> April. Anyone who requires transport to the venue should contact Colin.

It is hoped that all members will attend to make a success of this special anniversary.

#### Communication

Please will all members send their e-mail addresses and/or change of contact details to Biff Maggs who maintains the Club's database. Her e-mail address is [biff@eastcoast.co.za](mailto:biff@eastcoast.co.za).

#### General

- All member should keep medical aid and emergency contact details in their backpacks.
- Note that the hikes are organised in various areas according to the season. Hence many hikes are planned in the Kloof area during summer as this area offers shadier hikes.
- Hikers may only hike on official paths in Palmiet Reserve and not in Wilderness area.
- Please could you pay your subs or weekend fees either by cheque, bank transfer or internet banking as cash deposits are expensive. (See front cover for banking details) This will help us to keep bank charges to the minimum. Please to mark the deposit slip with your name and item for which you are paying.

#### SOCIAL CALENDAR

Organiser – Mike Serrurier - 082 822 3106

20 April	Thatchers - Meet at 7.00 pm
27 May	The German Club – Meet at 7.00 pm
29 June	Braai at Dennis and Kim's House. BYO and salad to share

**CAMPING & OUTDOORS**  
4x4, HIKING & OUTDOOR SPECIALIST WAREHOUSE

*The outdoors start with us!*

*4 x 4 Fitment Centre On-Site*

Your one-stop shop for all camping, climbing, hiking, canoeing and 4x4 adventures!

**"The Crescent" - Umhlanga Ridge**

in-store specials • easy access • free parking - open 7 days a week

Tel (031) 566 3177  
Fax (031) 566 5061  
email: campout@iafrica.com

FRONT RUNNER  
4x4 FITMENT CENTRE ON-SITE

**Glengarry Weekend : 4- 6 May**

Marg Blake, one our longest standing members, has booked Glengarry in the Kamberg area from 4 to 6 May inclusive (Friday to Sunday night) for a weekend away for present and past members of Durban Ramblers. A fair number of past members have already booked for this weekend.

Should any present members be interested in joining them for either 2 or 3 nights, please phone Marg on 031-2662426. The cost is R525 for 3 nights or R385 for 2 nights in self-catering accommodation. The cost includes one evening meal.

**Condolences**

Very sincere condolences are extended to Gloria McConnell and family on the death of Mick McConnell. Mick, who was a very active member of Ramblers for many years, made a considerable contribution to the Club over the years.

**Annual Subscriptions for 2007**

The good news is that it was agreed that the AGM that the subs for 2007 will remain unchanged. However, we do require you to pay your subs before the end of April.

You can either deposit your subs directly into the Club's bank account (banking details are on the front of the magazine) or you can hand in the money with your form in an envelope to your hike leader.

If you have any queries or have lost your form, please contact the Treasurer, Biff Maggs, on 0829006965 or send an e-mail to her at [biff@eastcoast.co.za](mailto:biff@eastcoast.co.za)

*This is the official newsletter of the Durban Ramblers' Hiking Club. Contributions are very welcome, but the right to edit any contribution is reserved. If you have any tales to tell, we would love to hear about them. Please e-mail your copy to [jennysa@telkomsa.net](mailto:jennysa@telkomsa.net).*

*The opinions expressed in any published article or inserts do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Durban Ramblers' Hiking Club.*

**Saturday Hikes**

Hikers may meet at Musgrave Park Medical Centre before 13:30 sharp, or earlier if indicated in the programme, to travel in convoy or to share transport to the start of the hike. Please get to starting point by 13:45 in order for hike to begin on time. A cost of R8.00 for transport is payable to the relevant driver. There is a charge of R4.00 for visitors. Bring the correct amount of money as change is not always available. For directions to the starting point, please phone one of the organisers between 12:00 and 12:45 on the day. Children are welcome but check suitability of hike with leader. Please bring at least 1 litre of water, a snack for half time and a hat.

**Sunday Hikes (Full Day)**

Please try to get to the meeting places at least 10 minutes earlier to help with arranging lifts. Bring the correct amount of money as change may not be available. Sunday hikers are advised to bring at least 2 litres of water, lunch and a hat. Visitors' fee is R5.

Meeting Place : Union Main Centre, Old Main Road, Pinetown to depart at 8.00 am., If there is a change to the meeting time or venue this will be noted in the hiking schedule below.

**IMPORTANT : if you need a lift from the meeting place, contact the hike leader or one of the hike organisers to ensure that somebody will be there.**

Date	Description of Hike	Leader	Tel
01 April	<i>Rob Roy. Starting from the Rob Roy Hotel, Steve has a slightly different hike in the Valley of a Thousand Hills. This is a beautiful part of the valley with easy footpaths, far from civilization. Petrol Sharing Cost R10</i>	Steve Watson	0824434155
7 April	<i>Kloof Mpiti Falls. Easy to moderate shady uphill walk to the top of the waterfall. Meet at 13.45 at Kranskloof picnic site. R10 entrance fee. BYO afterwards.</i>	Trevor	031 765 5133
8 April	<b>Easter Weekend – no hike</b>		
14 April	<i>Lower Burman Bush. Shady walk through indigenous bush. Meet at 13h45 at Rose Garden opposite Mitchell Park. Drinks at Cockle Jacks afterwards (north past Vehicle Licensing office in Percy Osborne Road)</i>	Werner	031 767 2969
15 April	<i>Amanzimtoti Circuit. A mixture of coastal hills and beach. Leave DBN &amp; Pinetown at 8.00 to meet John at Doonside/Warner Beach glide off at 8.30. Petrol Sharing Cost R10</i>	John van Zyl	4627952
21 April	<i>Summerveld Conservancy Area. Cane / grassland. Meet at 13h45 at Assagay Hotel entrance. Optional drinks / supper at Assagay Hotel</i>	Collin	031 708 3517
22 April	<i>La Mercy. – * new hike* - Starting from Umhloti, cross the La Mercy river and explore the area of the new airport. So far untouched! Leave Durban at 8am to meet at the parking lot by the sea across the road from the petrol station at Umhloti at 8.45. Petrol Sharing Cost R10</i>	Jenny / Jon Stevens	0849520622 / 0824591522

28 April	Virginia Bush Nature Reserve. Easy indigenous bush walk. Meet at 13h45. Park in Kensington Drive outside reserve Easy	Gerald	0312051089
29 April	Cumberland -- *new hike*. Moderate hike through open savannah grassland with possibility of seeing plains game, then down into beautiful Umgeni River Gorge and back up again via spectacular waterfall. Entry fee R5. Moderate Petrol Sharing Cost R30	Bruce Aiken	332 9871.
5 May	Kloof Nkonka Falls -- Grasslands walk to the falls with lovely views. Meet at 13.45 at Kranskloof picnic site. R10 entrance fee. Bring and braai at Kim and Dennis' home afterwards	Ann Dennis	013 767 1027 083 320 4951
6 May	Assagay/Alverstone. -Pleasant hike through farmlands and country lanes. Cost R15	Dieter Becker	4627445
12 May	Bartlett Estates -- walk through cane farmlands and grassland. Meet early at 13h30 at Assagay Hotel and proceed to farm. R5 donation to conservancy. Bring and braai afterwards	Trevor	031 765 5133
13 May	Summerveld Conservancy. Colin knows this area like the back of his hand. All the best bits on one hike! Petrol Sharing Cost R10	Colin Turner	7083517
19 May	76 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations at Springside Nature Reserve. Walk starts 9.30 am for walk and braai at 1.00 pm.	Colin	031 708 3517
20 May	Virginia - Umhlanga Ramble. Instead of the fierce heat of summer, hike this area during the beautiful May sunshine. Crisp & clear like a good beer. Meet at Virginia airport at 8.00.	Glenys	0833752252
26 May	Kloof Beacon -- climb to beacon. Stunning view to Durban. Meet at 13.45 at Kranskloof picnic site. R10 entrance fee. BYO afterwards	Philip	031 201 3592
27 May	Bluff Retreat. See the forgotten Bluff. Long hike but at sea level. Meet at BP garage on Edwin Swales, we leave at 8.00 on the dot. Bring costumes and towels if you want to swim.	Mike White	0833255348
2 June	Paradise Valley Nature Reserve -- easy shady walk with historical interest. Meet at 13h45 at the entrance.	Dennis	083 320 4951
3 June	Steve's Surprise. Steve is still thinking about this. But don't fear it will be entertaining.	Steve Nel	0834540569
9 June	Sibaya Meander -- Moderate hike with lovely views. Meet at 13h45 at casino entrance. Drinks afterwards at the casino	Jenny	0849520622
10 June	Hilton Ramble Around the Hilton College estate with a magnificent view of the Umgeni valley and down to Gwen Falls. This is a lovely hike thru the well maintained conservancy area of the school. Petrol Sharing Cost R40	Colin Turner	7083517
16 June	Uwe Road -- Kranskloof - level walk along the contour with some views. Meet at 13h45 on Uwe Road, off Buckingham or at 13h30 at the filling station near Wyebank off ramp on Fields Hill. R10 entrance fee. afterwards. Easy	Philip	031 201 3592
17 June	Wingfield, mid-Illovo area. Neville continues his exploration of the area. A lovely part of the country with scenic gorges, rivers and steep hills. Leave Musgrave and Pinetown simultaneously at 7.30am. Meet at Kingsburgh turn-off on southern freeway - Exit 133, R603 - 8.00am. Cost: R45 (includes donation to reserve). Note the times!	Nevill Walmsley	309 2298
23 June	Hawaan Forest/Umhlanga Lagoon. Shady mangrove forest walk, returning via the beach. Meet at 13h45 opposite Cabana Beach Hotel. Bring and braai at Merle's house	Merle	031 561 3038

	afterwards.		
24 June	Mbona. A beautiful walk among the animals of Africa. We are privileged to walk on this private estate in the Karkloof area. Petrol Sharing Cost R40. NB -- departure time from Pinetown is 7.30 am	Jenny	0849520622
30 June	Clifton Watch Tower. Fairly steep climb to stunning views. Meet at 13h45 at Assagay Hotel entrance. Optional drinks/supper there afterwards	Dennis	083 320 4951

Wednesday Walks

Colin Turner and Phillip Gatenby organise a morning hike every other Wednesday. The dates are 11 and 25 April, 9 and 23 May and 6 and 20 June. All are welcome. Please phone Colin on 708 3517 or Philip on 201 3592 before the day to find out details and meeting place.

Weekend & Trails Programme -- April -- June 2007

Please contact the name of the "Contact Person" indicated below to confirm bookings of weekends before depositing the money in the bank to ensure your space is reserved.

Please liaise with Kim or Dennis if you wish to share lifts or co-ordinate transport for weekends away. Booking and payment must be made in advance timeously to secure your site.

DATE	DESCRIPTION	LEADER	Contact person:
5 - 8 April	Injisuthi -- camping available. There are no designated sites. All sites DO NOT have electrical plug points. Limited braai stands. The ablution block has gas geyser. Do not travel at night, gates close 18.00hrs. R55 pppn. Maps available on request.	Brian O Connell 083 544 6379	Kim: 031 3277582 082 6553796 or Dennis: 083 3204951
26 - 30 April	Mahal -- Camping, non electrified sites. Gate times 6am to 9.30pm. Hot and cold water available. R65 pppn. Maps available on request.	Brian O Connell 083 544 6379	Kim: 031 3277582 0826553796 or Dennis: 083 3204951
1 - 3 June	The New Ngele Trail. Rustic two room huts above tree line with hot water and world class views. Beautiful hikes in forest, plantation and grasslands. Enchanting Hobbits wood 3 minutes from huts. R50 pppn. Payment to Phillip Gatenby by 26/05/07.	Phillip Gatenby	Phillip Gatenby 031 201 3592 082 9540582