

MIDLANDS HIKING CLUB FIXTURE LIST: JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2014 (Revised(1):2014.07.08 (2):2014.08.08

DATE	TYPE	GRADE	APPROX DIST	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	LEADER	APPROX COST
July Sunday 6	Day hike	2	12kms	CUMBERLAND NATURE RESERVE PIETERMARITZBURG. Combined Ramblers/MBH/Midlands hike along cliffs to a waterfall, returning across grasslands. Meet at Union Main Centre, Old Main Road, Pinetown at 6.45am or at the Honesty Box near the entrance to Cumberland in time to start walking at 8am. (Fee R10 per person.) Bring snacks and 2 litres of water. There is nowhere to get water once we start walking. Please phone Philip and let him know if you would like to join him.	Philip Swart 031 465 2776 072 606 6599 Co-leader Dave Tighe	(Petrol sharing R55pp)
July Sunday 13	Day hike	2+	12 - 15kms	KARKLOOF. Day hike through Everdon Estates led by the man who know the area better than anybody - previously this hike has proved to be very popular and has some of the most spectacular views in the area including Umgeni and Karkloof rivers - Cecil Hackney will lead the hike but pleas contact Keith. Don't miss this one.	Keith Ashton 033 239 5023 keimarg@iuncapped.co.za	R10 donation
July Saturday 19	Day hike	1	10 kms	CEDARA: Four hour hike starting at the Rotunda at 8.00 and walking through the plantations up to Cowan House and around. Pets are welcome.	Brian Henwood 0826556359 brian@hn.co.za	
July Tuesday 15	CLUB NIGHT			7.00pm at the Church of the Ascension, Brindy Road, Hilton. Penny Rees will talk on Fracking in Natal (Committee - NOTE, no committee meeting beforehand)		R5 for Car Guard
July Sunday 20	Day hike	2+		ADAMSHURST	John Fourie john4ie@gmail.com 074 370 8189	
July Sunday 27	Day hike	2	12 - 15kms	UMGENI VALLEY NATURE RESERVE near Howick. Lovely local day hike in a beautiful area. Great views and chance to see plenty of game and bird life. Several trail variations. Great winter venue.	Keith Ashton 033 239 5023 keimarg@iuncapped.co.za	R25 entance fee
August Saturday 2	Day hike	2	12kms	KAMBERG RESERVE. Day hike to Rock Art Sites seldom seen. Bushman Rock Art in a very Scenic Area. Leader will be overnighing at Mountain Shadows Guest Farm. Meet at Kamberg Ezemvelo Parksboard office at 8am. This is a combined hike with Ramblers Mountain Backpackers and Midlands Hiking Clubs.	Dave Tighe 076 028 0708 031 464 9247	
August Tuesday 5	AGM			Our annual AGM will be held at the Church of the Ascension, Brindy Road, Hilton. Tea, coffe, wine and snacks will be available.		
August Sat16-Sun17	Weekend Hike	2+	6 - 8 kms per day	BLINKWATER TRAIL on the Greytown Road to Pmb, 50kms from Howick. A marked trail through beautiful grasslands with a great variety of vegetation. Home to endangered Wattled Crane. Comfortable accomodation with hot showers.	John Fourie john4ie@gmail.com 074 370 8189	
August Sun 31	Day hike	2		SATORI FARM, Dargle. Leisurely hike followed by a light lunch (eg soup and homemade bread). Meet at Piggly Wiggly at 8.30am	Carolee Thompson caroleejoy@gmail.com	
September Sunday 7	Day hike	3	12kms	STAINBANK NATURE RESERVE, YELLOWWOOD PARK. Meet inside the entrance gate at 8am for a hike over grasslands and through coastal forest. Game viewing guaranteed. Bring-and-share braai later to celebrate the first weekend of Spring	Philip Swart 031 465 2776 072 606 6599 Co-leader Dave Tighe	R20 entance fee
Septemer Sunday 7	Day hike	2	10kms	BLESBERG FARM	John Fourie john4ie@gmail.com 074 370 8189	
September Sunday 14	Day hike			LIDGETTON - Hike from Pleasant Places to Swissland Cheese Farm, for picnic and cheese tastings.	Carolee Thompson caroleejoy@gmail.com	
September Tuesday 16	Club Night			Brian Henwood's presentation on his climb up Mt Kilimanjaro - Church of the Ascension, Brindy Rd, Hilton at 7pm.		
September Sat27-Sun28	Camping weekend	3	17kms	COBHAM. You can camp or stay in the Pholela Hut adjacent to the camp site. All day hike on Saturday, departing from Cobham Camp Site at 8:00, to iNgenwa Pool along a section of the Giants Cup Trail. This is a 17 km long hike with an elevation difference of 170 m. On Sunday we can chill out and enjoy the scenery.	Brian Henwood 0826556359 brian@hn.co.za	
ADVANCE NOTICE						
November Tues 18	Club Night			Carl Welling will present an illustrated talk on the EL CAMINO TRAIL - Church of the Ascension, Brindy Rd, Hilton at 7pm.		
Dec/Jan Wed31-Thur1	Cave	2-3	12 - 15kms each day	HIGHMOOR - Your chance to celebrate New Year's Eve (and N Y Day) in Aasvoelkrans Cave with Keith and Margaret for their 10th time at New Year. Short backpacking hike to the cave, then explorations of the area from the cave. Lovely waterfall and pool. Bring swimming gear and all your goodies to celebrate in style.	Keith Ashton 033 239 5023 keimarg@iuncapped.co.za	R45 pppn incl. entry and levies. R90 total pp.
GRADINGS OF HIKES				SOME IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT HIKING	CLUB NIGHTS	
Grade 1	Very easy. Minimal fitness required			1. Hikes are graded so that members can select the activity best suited to their own level of fitness and do not cause unreasonable delay to fellow hikers.	Our Club nights are held on the third Tuesday of every second month in the Church of the Ascension Hall starting at 19:00. Tea & coffee served. Come along early and meet your fellow members. Plenty of parking next to the hall, accessed from Brindy Road, Hilton. A R5 tip for the car guard would be very much appreciated.	
Grade 2	Not too strenuous. Moderate fitness			2. Contact the leader of a day hike at least 3 days in advance of your intention to participate.		
Grade 3	Moderate. Physical fitness advised			3. Contact the leader of a camping weekend at least one week in advance of your intention to participate.		
Grade 4	Strenuous. Physical fitness essential			4. If accommodation bookings are required please contact the leader at your earliest convenience to secure yourself a booking.		
Grade 5	Very strenuous - high level of physical fitness is essential			5. Leaders have the prerogative to exclude a member if they doubt their health condition, physical fitness or suitability of their hiking gear for a particular activity.		
				6. Advise the leader of any medical condition prior to any hike & carry the necessary medication - The leader will not administer First Aid.		
				7. Carry your medical aid, doctor and close family friend contact details in your backpack at all times.		