

MIDLANDS HIKING CLUB FIXTURE LIST: OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2018

DATE	GRADE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	LEADER
Sunday 7 October	Grade 2 DAY HIKE 10km 200m climb	KAMBERG Gladstone's Nose from office and over the hill to see unseen scenery. Come back via the high road and follow the old Eland trail back, and drop to camp. Easy walk with good views, slow walk taking in SPRING. All interested hikers to let me know by 3RD OCTOBER. Normal day hiking gear, bring lunch and refreshment, limited water.	Dave Sclander - email only dave@bergfree.co.za with a cell number & I will contact you direct. R40.00 please bring correct cash Last booking - Wed 3rd Oct
Saturday 13 October	Grade 3	KRANZKLOOF NATURE RESERVE – Meet at Kloof Falls Picnic Site off Kloof Falls Road at 8:00. A 5 hr hike along the Molweni Trail via "Ten Feet" crossing, up the Pumula Trail onto Uve Trail and along the Beacon Trail. All welcome to braai at the leader's house afterwards.	Brian Henwood 0826556359 or bhhenwood@gmail.com R30 entrance fee.
Sunday 21 October	Grade 2	Alistair's Magical Mystery tour.	Alistair Nixon email alanixav@gmail.com 083 6606657
Sat – Sun 27-28 Oct.	Grade 3 CAVE	HIGHMOOR – Over-night in Caracal Cave – Great views - ideal for first time backpackers & others as we will explore from the cave	Keith Ashton by e-mail only keimarg@iuncapped.co.za R70 pp
Sunday 28 October	Grade 1 11 km 280m climb	FOREST GNOME TRAIL. Mainly in forest with views of Albert Falls at lunchtime	Margret Kirsten email mjkaway41@gmail.com
Sunday 4 November	12km 300m	IMPENDLE NATURE RESERVE Meet at the Impendle turn off on the R617 (6kms past Boston coming from Howick, or 3kms past the Pickle Pot Cafe, coming from Underberg) at 8.30am. (Bring all your own refreshments for after the hike.) I will take a collection for the rangers.	Philip Grant 082 4179163 pjcsgrant@gmail.com
Sunday 11 Nov	Day hike Grade 2+ 15km	HOWICK – UMGENI VALLEY NATURE RESERVE – Various trails, lovely views, plenty of game & birdlife.	Keith Ashton by e-mail only keimarg@iuncapped.co.za R30 pp
THURSDAY 15 Nov	Social evening	CHRIS APPLETON, Professor Emeritus of Life Sciences at UKZN will give a talk on "Billharzia – public enemy number two". Church of the Ascension Hall, Brindy Road, Hilton - 7pm. Wine and light snacks available	Free to members. Contact Penny Purchase Email chrispenny@telkomsa.net
Sunday 18 November	Day hike Grade 1 8km	CUMBERLAND Nature reserve - short beginners hike to Krantz hut and back - is only a morning hike so will just need water and a little snack.	Katy Hart 0832776272 katyemma.hart@gmail.com
Sat-Sun 24-25 November	Weekend Social plus day hikes	NHLAZANE CHRISTMAS PARTY WEEKEND at Mount Park farmhouse. Can accommodate 20 inside plus campsites and smaller cabins available. Saturday morning short hike. Saturday afternoon party. Sunday climb Nhlazane. R200 pppn. Book and pay by end of October.	Cathy Nixon 0846932340 cathy.amies@gmail.com
Sunday 2 December	Day hike Grade 2 15km	HOWICK – THE AMBERS – Lovely hike around the 4 Ambers wilder areas – loads of game & birdlife – Tea/Coffee/cakes at the Ashton's – MAX 12	Keith Ashton by e-mail only keimarg@iuncapped.co.za R20 pp donation
Sunday 9 December	Grade 1 10km	KARKLOOF FALLS An easy morning hike.	Sue Rowley SMS OR WhatsApp 0732131314 sue524024@gmail.com
Sunday 16 December		Local hike to be announced.	
Sunday 30 Dec-2 Jan	Hut Long weekend	BUSHMAN'S NEK MOUNTAIN HUT. CELEBRATE NEW YEAR IN STYLE IN A STUNNING AREA - Short (just over 1.4 km) backpacking to Bushman's Nek Hut for a three-night stay.- Beautiful day hikes from this base to see waterfalls, bushmen's paintings, caves & lovely pools for swimming. Hut has lockable rooms with bunk beds & mattresses + flush toilets & showers (only cold water but no problem) - Combined hike with other clubs. Don't forget your drinks & goodies –NEW RENOVATED HUT	Keith Ashton by e-mail only keimarg@iuncapped.co.za Please book early to secure your place - (Some members have already booked)- last bookings by Fri 14 Dec.

IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT HIKING

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.
2. Contact the leader of a day hike at least 3 days in advance of your intention to participate. If you need to cancel please contact the leader as soon as possible. Numbers are often limited and there may be a waiting list.
3. Contact the leader of a camping weekend at least one week in advance of your intention to participate.
4. If accommodation bookings are required please contact the leader at your earliest convenience to secure yourself a booking.
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. We encourage all hikers to attach their membership badges to their backpacks with these details available.

GRADINGS OF HIKES	
FF	Family friendly
PF	Pet friendly
Grade 1	Very easy. Minimal fitness required
Grade 2	Not too strenuous. Moderate fitness
Grade 3	Moderate. Physical fitness advisable
Grade 4	Strenuous. Physical fitness essential
Grade 5	Very strenuous - high level of physical fitness essential

CLUB NIGHTS

Our Club nights are held on the third THURSDAY of every second month in the Church of the Ascension Hall, Hilton starting at 19:00. Wine, snacks, tea & coffee served. Come along early and meet your fellow members. Plenty of parking next to the hall, accessed from Brindy Road, Hilton.