

MIDLANDS HIKING CLUB FIXTURE LIST: APRIL - JUNE 2014 (revised 2014.04.02)(revised 2014.05.23)(revised 2014.06.03)

DATE	TYPE	GRADE	APPROX DIST	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVIES	LEADER	APPROX COST
April Sun 6	DAY HIKE	2	4 - 5 hours	GIBA GORGE. This scenic hike takes in McIntosh Falls & the Umhlatazana Shelter. Meet at the Giba Gorge cycle track for 08h00 start. Bring water & snacks. Phone co-leader Philip Swart to book your place.	Philip Swart 031 4652776 0726066599	R10 entrance
April Sun 13	DAYHIKE	2	15 kms	Mt Gilboa area - New Hike - not been done before. Good climb to start , then sort of flat area, then down to cars. Through some forest on cycle track, then open grassslands and no path. Bring water, none available on the day. Phone evenings only	Dave Sclanders 082 4434287	
April Fri 25-Sun 27	COTTAGE	2 - 3	12 - 15km each day	DRAKENSBURG GARDENS. Fully equipped and very comfortable. Beautiful area in the heart of the mountains. Max 10 members. Day hikes from cottage or simply unwind on the property (10 acres). Hot baths and showers. Combined with Mountain Backpackers. Please book early to secure your place. Last bookings 11 April.	Keith Ashton 0332395023 keimarg@iuncapped.co.za	R160 total pp (R80pppn)
May Sun 4	DAY HIKE	2-3	10 - 12 kms	TILLIETUDLUM game farm and trout lodge in the Dargle/Impendle area. An old colonial home with beautiful gardens in lovely rolling countryside.	Annie Waterhouse 072 095 8610	R70 for lunch Optional
May Sat 3-Sun 4	CAVE	3	12km each day	SINCLAIRS CAVE - Kamberg. 1st time hikers cave. Come before the cold nights set in. First 8 bookings get to sleep in the cave. Later bookings must bring tents.	Dave Sclanders dave@bergfree.co.za	R45 pp
May Sun 11	DAY HIKE	2/3		ADAMHURST	John Fourie 0743708189 john4ie@gmail.com	
May Fri 9-Sun 11	COTTAGE WEEKEND	2	Walks from the cottage.	LAKE LYNDHURST The cottage overlooks Lake Lynhurst and is in walking distance of the Umngeni Vlei where the Umngeni River starts. Sleeps 8 in comfortable bedrooms with hot water and gas lights.Bring your own towels, bedding and torches.	Mark Nellist 0828262526 mnellist@telkomsa.net	R190 ppp weekend R85 pppn
May Mon 12-Fri 16	5 DAY HIKE	4		WILD COAST from Port St Johns to Coffee Bay, Visit wildcoasthikes.com	Cheryl Moloney moloneycheryl@gmail.com	
May Sun 18	DAY HIKE	3	15 kms	BULWER MOUNTAIN. Park vehicles at Mountain Park Hotel and walk to the top of Bulwer Mountain.	Brian Henwood 0826556359 brian@hn.co.za	
May Tues 20	CLUB NIGHT			An illustrated presentation of the EL CAMINO TRAIL - Church of the Ascension, Brindy Rd, Hilton at 7pm.		R5 for car guard
May Sat 24-Sun 25	CAMPING WEEKEND			DIDIMA	Brian Henwood 0826556359 brian@hn.co.za	
May Sun 25	DAY HIKE	2	12 kms	DARGLE CONSERVANCY - Day hike through indigenous forest on private land - climbing to above forest for magnificent views of surrounding areas - prolific bird life. Our guide is the owner who is very knowledgeable about the local plants, trees, birds and animals. Stunning location and not to be missed. Combined hike with MBP	Keith Ashton 0332395023 keimarg@iuncapped.co.za	R20pp donation to conservancy
June Sun 1	DAYHIKE			BLESBERG FARM	John Fourie 0743708189 john4ie@gmail.com	
June Sat 7						
June Sun 8	DAY HIKE	2	Approx 6 hrs	ENON FOREST AREA - close to Richmond. Hike from Enon Cottage through plantations, indigenous forest and grassland. Meet at BP Garage on the main road through Richmond at 08h00.	Dave Tighe 0314649247 0760280708	
June Fri 6-Sun 8	MOUNTAIN HUT	2-3	12 - 15km each day	BUSHMAN'S NEK - Short (1 km) backpacking to Bushman's Nek Hut for a two night stay. Beautiful day hikes from this base to see waterfalls, bushmen's paintings, caves and lovely pools for swimming. Hut has lockable rooms with bunk beds and mattresses and flush toilets and showers (only cold water but no problem). Combined hike with MBP. Please book early to secure place. Last bookings 28 May	Keith Ashton 0332395023 keimarg@iuncapped.co.za	R160 total pp (R80pppn)
June Fri 13-Mon 16	CAMPING WEEKEND	2-3		TO STRAND: South Coast at Port Edward. Campsite with immaculate ablutions and right on the beach, very safe and secure.The cost is R325.00 per site per day with a maximum of 6 persons per site and one car. Possible hiking in the Umtumvuna Nature Reserve, along the beach to the Port Edward Light House, or , walk to the petrified forest south of the Wild Coast Sun, dependents on weather	Bushy Kirby: 0837572660	
June Sat 21-Sun 22						
June Sat 28	DAY HIKE	2		KENNETH STAINBANK NATURE RESERVE - YELLOWWOOD PARK. The hike will be lead by Honorary Officer David Joseph. It is a reasonably easy walk taking about 3 hours. Ideal for beginners and people wanting to explore a reserve in the Durban area.	Debbie Jager 033 343 1191 082 510 9486	
June Fri 27-Sun 29	COTTAGE WEEKEND	2-3	7 - 12 kms from the cottage	MAKURUMANI - Cathkin Valley. A fully equipped private cottage high up in the Drakensberg, overlooking Monks Cowl Camp. Various short to medium distance walks from the cottage, or just chill out and enjoy the solitude and wonderful 'berg views. Maximum 10 people.	Mary Clover 083 700 6199 mnellist@telkomsa.net	R190 pp for weekend R85 pppn
ADVANCE NOTICE						
July Tues 15	Club Night			Church of the Ascension, Brindy Rd, Hilton at 7pm. Penny Reese will talk to us about Fracking.		
October	Trail Hike			NUM NUM TRAIL in Mpumalanga. 5 day trail. Price for this slack-packing hike is reasonable and route looks amazing and varied. Shuttle bus to Nellspruit or share lifts.	Ingrid Hardman manhard@telkomsa.net	costs to be advised

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.
Grade 2	Not too strenuous. Moderate fitness required.	2. Contact the leader of a day hike at least 3 days in advance of your intention to participate.
Grade 3	Moderate. Physical fitness advisable.	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. A 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 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.

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.