

FIXTURES – OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2025

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.
8. Further information on the Rules and Regulations, for your safety, [please click here.](#)

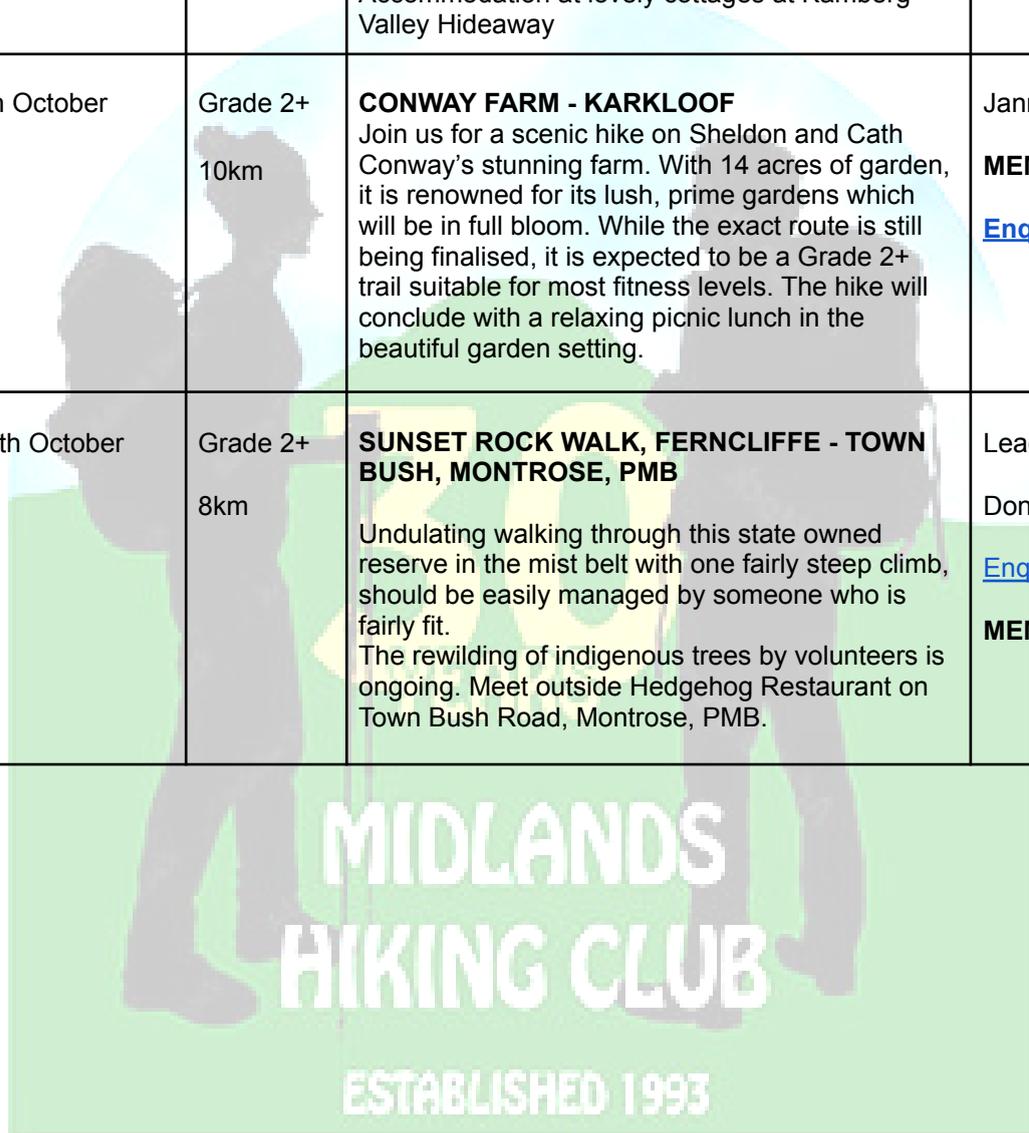
GRADINGS OF HIKES

- ❖ 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 is advisable.
- ❖ Grade 4 - Strenuous. Physical fitness is essential.



	DATE	GRADE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	LEADER
	Saturday 4th October	Grade 3-4 4.5 hrs Elevation approx 650m	<p>CUMBERLAND NATURE RESERVE - GORGE HIKE - PMB (Bottom of Main Waterfall - weather dependant)</p> <p>This hike is only for the extremely fit and flexible. A lot of boulder climbing, slippery sections and scrambling over rocks is involved. We will walk along the ridge and take the easy way down to the river, with a short break. Then we will follow the gorge up to the base of the main waterfall, where we will break for lunch. The return is the dangerous part and one must be very sure footed, we will 'hug the cliff face' and the path is rocky and slippery.</p>	<p>Andrew Loots</p> <p>Entrance fee: R70 pp</p> <p>Exact cash only</p> <p>Enquiries click here</p> <p>MEMBERS ONLY</p>
	Sunday 5th October		<p>SOCIAL - BENVIE OPEN GARDENS - KARKLOOF</p> <p>Our first Social of the new hiking year! A BYO picnic at The Paddock at Benvie Gardens from 10am. Lizette will be telling us about their Whale Trail experience in January.</p>	<p>Enquiries click here</p> <p>R50pp</p> <p>MEMBERS ONLY</p>
	Saturday 11th October	Grade 2 9 km	<p>WYNNIFREDS FARM TRAIL - TALA VALLEY Ingomankulu Rd, Tala Valley</p> <p>This 9 km well marked trail takes us over 2 hills with lovely views of the valley below. The hike will be about 3 ½ hours. An enjoyable morning in the beautiful Tala Valley. There are 2 shorter routes as well. The coffee shop has great coffee, cake or lunch afterwards.</p>	<p>Lizette Gerber</p> <p>Everybody welcome</p> <p>Donation R20pp</p> <p>Enquiries click here</p>
	Sunday 12th October	Grade 3 12kms	<p>TABLE MOUNTAIN - PMB - KZN</p> <p>Our very own Table Mountain, steeped in local folklore with tales of giant snakes and cannibals, has served as a refuge and sacred place throughout history. We will meet, drive in convoy and be escorted to a secure gated property. We'll circumnavigate this beautiful mountain and enjoy magnificent views of the Midlands and The Valley of a Thousand Hills. Kindly ensure that you have the fitness level required for this hike to stay with the group for the duration of the hike and no injuries.</p>	<p>Vanessa Taylor</p> <p>R90pp</p> <p>Enquiries click here</p> <p>MEMBERS ONLY</p>

	DATE	GRADE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	LEADER
	Saturday 18th October Sunday 19th October	Grade 3 10kms	<p>LITTLE MOOI EXPEDITION - HIGHMOOR A new route along a tributary of the Little Mooi along the base of the majestic rock formations in the Highmoor bowl. Off path, and very demanding gradients in places. We will be treated to a visit to the vulture restaurant at Silverhill on Sunday morning, a conservation outreach project of the Bearded Vulture. We will finish off with lunch at GlenGarry. Accommodation at lovely cottages at Kamberg Valley Hideaway</p>	Hettie Randall R50 conservation fee Enquiries click here MEMBERS ONLY
	Sunday 19th October	Grade 2+ 10km	<p>CONWAY FARM - KARKLOOF Join us for a scenic hike on Sheldon and Cath Conway's stunning farm. With 14 acres of garden, it is renowned for its lush, prime gardens which will be in full bloom. While the exact route is still being finalised, it is expected to be a Grade 2+ trail suitable for most fitness levels. The hike will conclude with a relaxing picnic lunch in the beautiful garden setting.</p>	Janna de Gouveia MEMBERS ONLY Enquiries click here
	Saturday 25th October	Grade 2+ 8km	<p>SUNSET ROCK WALK, FERNCLIFFE - TOWN BUSH, MONTROSE, PMB Undulating walking through this state owned reserve in the mist belt with one fairly steep climb, should be easily managed by someone who is fairly fit. The rewilding of indigenous trees by volunteers is ongoing. Meet outside Hedgehog Restaurant on Town Bush Road, Montrose, PMB.</p>	Leader Graham Keit Donation R50pp Enquiries click here MEMBERS ONLY



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	Sunday 26th October	Grade 4 approx 6 kms	<p>HOWICK FALLS - HISTORY HIKE Get ready for an unforgettable adventure! Don't be misled by the mileage — this is a challenging hike.</p> <p>Start point: Meet at WESSA Reception.</p> <p>Route: Walk from WESSA across grasslands to the Howick Falls view site (a relaxed warm-up). Then comes the steep descent to the Lower Umgeni Falls (previously known as "Fish Jump"). Cross the Shelter River (yes, expect wet feet!) and prepare for a scramble, clamber, haul, slip, and slide all the way to the base of Howick Falls.</p> <p>⚠ Expect slow going here — every step needs care, and yes, your bum will probably get muddy! From the base, it's a steep climb back up to the top, where you'll enjoy spectacular views of the Falls from the Howick view site.</p> <p>Finally, we take an easy stroll back to WESSA reception.</p> <p>Optional extra: on our return journey to WESSA, join us for a well-deserved lunch at <i>41 Restaurant (formally The Village)</i>.</p> <p>Important to note: This hike depends on river conditions. If there's been heavy rain and the river is too high, we won't be able to reach the base of the Falls from WESSA. Instead, we'll start from the Howick view site and hike down and back up from there. A much shorter and quicker route, but less history.</p>	<p>Ali Engelbrecht</p> <p>Enquiries click here</p> <p>Cost to pay at WESSA R35 conservation fee.</p> <p>History - see the cave where the Boer women hid from the English Soldiers during the 2nd Boer War.</p>
	Saturday 1st November	Grade 2 10km	<p>KAMBERG - ROMAN BATHS We follow an old road to the river with a huge pool and some smaller splash pools, bring swim kit, hats and sunscreen. Cell phones for pictures only. A small umbrella may be useful. Good walking shoes are essential. Ezemvelo entry fee R70pp or Rhino card. No dogs. Numbers limited to first 20.</p> <p>This is a perfect opportunity to learn the path and the Kamberg Reserve should you have becoming a Leader in mind</p>	<p>Dave Sclanders</p> <p>MEMBERS ONLY</p> <p>Enquiries click here</p>
	Sunday 2nd November	Grade 3 7kms	<p>CUNNINGHAM CASTLE - MINERVA NATURE RESERVE - 5 of the BIG 5 CHALLENGE</p> <p>Hike to the Beacon and picnic spot. Bring lunch and snacks and extra water - there is no water on this hike. (No ablutions) Magnificent views of Byrne Valley and Conservancy.</p>	<p>Renata Ruggeri</p> <p>R25pp</p> <p>Enquiries click here</p> <p>MEMBERS ONLY</p>

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	Tuesday 4-Thursday 6th November	Grade 2 Various distances	ZULU FALLS - MIDDLEBUS MOOI RIVER Lovely walks, game viewing and huge waterfall. Comfortable chalets including bedding, swimming pool, large boma and braai area. Bring your own towels. R800 per person plus share of R600 for staff (divided by the number of participants).	Margret Kirsten Booking by email only not later than 29th Oct. Enquiries click here
	Saturday 8th November	Grade 3 10kms Elevation gain 650m	BREAKFAST ROCK CHALLENGE - FERNCLIFFE- PMB A good level of fitness is required for this challenging new route through the Ferncliffe Reserve, good head for heights necessary with confident, nimble rock scrambling skills and challenging. Meet outside Hedgehog Restaurant on Town Bush Road, Montrose, Pietermaritzburg, at 7:30am	Graham Keit Donation R50pp Enquiries click here MEMBERS ONLY
	Sunday 9th November	Grade 2 10km	GIBA GORGE HIKE - PINETOWN A beautiful, scenic hike through Giba Gorge. Mostly shaded, includes river crossings over wooden bridges, dam, cascades, and waterfall. A pet friendly (on lead & social) hike "however" there are several wooden ladders on the route and also a technical section with rope assist. This will include a picnic after the hike alternatively there is a restaurant at the picnic area for a delicious meal/snack and ice cold beverage. For those keen after chilling we can drive in convoy to a magnificent waterfall close by and on your way home (hike 3.5km total) R50pp to be paid at the entrance gate of Giba Gorge either cash or card. No charge to hike to the optional extra waterfall. Kindly note that you are required to be sure footed to book onto this hike.	Vanessa Taylor Enquiries click here
	Saturday 15th November	Grade 3	COBHAM WEEKEND Pinnacle Rock paintings Pholela will be our base camp. We will hike to Pinnacle Rock on Saturday (23kms round trip along Emerald Stream) and to Bath Plug Cave (8kms round trip) on Sunday. Please make your own reservations with Ezemvelo at QEP. 033-845-1000 This is a perfect opportunity to learn the path and the Cobham Reserve is you would like to become a Leader	Hettie Randall MEMBERS ONLY Enquiries click here
	Sunday 16th November	Grade 2 14kms	HOWICK MEANDER Includes Simmonds Stream and Beacon Hill with panoramic views over Howick, down to the river and then refreshments at the Treaty afterwards.	Peter Wedge MEMBERS ONLY Enquiries click here

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	Saturday 22nd November	Grade 3 15kms PF	TEKWANI FOREST TRAILS - DARGLE The trail takes you on a short stretch along the Umngeni River and then a steep uphill climb and along a road to a small waterfall where we stop for a bite and a break. We then wind our way back down to the start where you are able to picnic and take a dip in the river. There are some steep strenuous climbs on this hike. The access road to the start is along 7km of rough gravel road after turning off the main Dargle Road (+-30km from Howick)	Iain Kerr Enquiries click here
	Sunday 23rd November	Grade 2-3 7kms (Elevation gain approx 500m)	GWAHUMBE GAME RESERVE - MID ILLOVO Join us for a hike through the nature reserve where you will see mixed game, and hopefully the reserve's 2 new White Rhinos. We will make our way down into the valley to the stream/cave for a quick refreshment, then a long and steady steep climb back up the valley. We will then make our way down the other side to the 'hippo pool' and along the river to the cascades falls for lunch. A long and steady steep climb back up the valley finishes the hike. NB: There is little shade enroute, bring hats and plenty of water. There are 2 stream crossings.	Andrew and Megan Loots Cost: (Free) provided we support the restaurant afterwards with a coffee/milkshake or meal. MEMBERS ONLY Enquiries click here
	Sunday 30th November		YEAR END FUNCTION Our prizegiving will be held at the Midmar Yacht Club this year. A BYO braai with everyone please contributing a salad. The Club will serve dessert. Cash bar applies, no alcohol may be brought to the venue.	Enquiries click here Ezemvelo entrance fee R70 applies or Rhino card MEMBERS ONLY
	Monday 1st December to Friday 5th December	Grade 3 - 4	LEOPARD TRAIL - Closed	Janna & Robby de Gouveia
	Saturday 6th December	Grade 3 & 2+	MAHAI CAMPING WEEKEND - RNNP Camping Weekend, Saturday and Sunday (possibly Friday). Meet at RNNP Main Office. Please make own bookings with QEP Sat - day walk to Tugela Gorge and Tunnel - 14 km total. Sun - Walk to Tiger Falls - 11 km total	Deon Small Enquiries click here Cost - R170 pppn (to confirm new rates) MEMBERS ONLY

	DATE	GRADE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	LEADER
	Sunday 7th December	Grade 2 8kms FF/PF	KARKLOOF FALLS An easy morning hike from the Karkloof Country Club, (approximately 10kms east of Howick), to the Karkloof Falls viewsite & a picnic. A chance of a swim in the river on a different path back.	Carolee Thompson R35 for Elders R70 if not a member of KCC. MEMBERS ONLY Enquiries click here
	Saturday 13th December	Grade 3 16kms PF	HOWICK MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAILS ON FOOT - KARKLOOF The trail winds its way along a stream then straight up towards the firetower along a little used MTB track, We then turn towards a vlei area containing 2 large farm dams, ideal for a picnic, then back down through the plantation to the start. There are some steep climbs on this hike..	Iain Kerr An entry fee of R60 (R35 for pensioners) is charged by the Karkloof club for non-members. Enquiries click here
	Sunday 14th December	Grade 3 - 4 6km	GREY MARES FALLS - SHAWSWOOD KARKLOOF Walk to the top of Gray Mare Falls, have lunch and walk back with an option for a new route down. A good level of fitness is required as there are a few steep climbs involved. Walking poles and sturdy footwear with good grip is a must. Meet at Shawswood.	Deon Small Enquiries click here Entry fee R50-00 per person (cash only) MEMBERS ONLY
	Sunday 21st December	Grade 2 15 kms	CRANE FOUNDATION - NOTTINGHAM ROAD There are several trails in the Nature Reserve including a bird hide to view the Crowned, Wattled Cranes and other birds. There is a chance of seeing Reedbuck and Oribi. Easy walking and a beautiful area. Route to be confirmed.	Libby Deysel Enquiries click here Cost R35 pp
	Sunday 28th December	Grade 2 10 kms	BAYNESFIELD DAM & MUSEUM Off R56 Richmond Road A walk around the Baynesfield dam followed by a picnic and possibly a visit to the Museum. Lots of history attached to the Baynesfield Estate.	Libby Deysel Enquiries click here R75 pp
	Wednesday 31 Dec 2025 to Thursday 1 Jan 2026	Grade 2+	HIGHMOOR NEW YEARS HIKE Meet at Highmoor Camp. Walk to and overnight in Aasvoel Krantz Cave. Possibility to walk to a small rock art site, and swim in the pool below the cave. Bring your goodies to see in the New Year.	Deon Small Enquiries click here Cost: R110 pppn (to confirm new rate) MEMBERS ONLY

DATE	GRADE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	LEADER
 <p>UPCOMING EVENTS</p> <p><u>FORTHCOMING EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY</u></p> <p>11 - 16 April 2026 - Canyon Trail - Baviaanskloof - hike is full - waitlisting applies.</p> <p>9 - 14 September 2026 - Whale Trail - hike is full - waiting list applies.</p>			

