



MOUNTAIN BACKPACKERS CLUB

Fixture List: January - March 2011

CHAIRMAN'S CHATTER

Dear Members

As it is the start of a New Year, it's only fitting that I have some great news to share with you. Late last year the MBC committee met and decided that we needed to focus on community building in 2011, as it appears that the world around us seems to want to strip away any sense of family and community. With this in mind 2011 is going to be filled with new and exciting changes in the club. Nevertheless these changes are meant to build the already strong sense of community that we have here at MBC. At the AGM a new social organizing committee was formed to take care of all our social engagements. In this regard I'd like to welcome Barry Stapleton, Lisa Smith, Brendon Cadman, Joanna Hall and Marie von Bargaen. Thank you all very much for getting involved with the social aspect of our club.

Back by popular demand, the Club Campout will be held from the 19-21 March, so keep that weekend open as it promises to be filled with loads to do for the whole family.

Trail running is becoming more and more popular and hikers like ourselves seem to make excellent "mountain runners". In this regard MBC is going to make an appearance at the local Umdoni Trail Series in March and April, and show them a thing or two. For further info and guidance please feel free to contact Diane Wearne.

If that wasn't enough we already have over 50 fixtures down on our 2011 calendar, so again, I ask you, "Who says there's nothing to do in Durban?".

Happy hiking
Grant Wilkinson
MBC Chairman

Membership fees are due on 1 January 2010.

Please note annual fees have been increased to R130 for Singles and R160 for Family memberships.

A renewal notice has been posted to you. Please pay promptly.

The Club's banking details are:
FNB Westville, Branch code 223526
Account name: Mountain Backpackers Club
Account number: 507 8000 7264

Please use your name and/or membership number as a reference.

NEW EMAIL FAX NUMBER FOR MEMBERSHIP ONLY:

members@mountainbackpackers.co.za

086 612 3657

MOUNTAIN BACKPACKERS CLUB COMMITTEE

Chairman:	Grant Wilkinson	073 6168789
Vice Chairman:	Bobby Stanton	031 4655535
Treasurer:	Bobby Stanton (temporary)	031 4655535
Fixture List / Magazine:	Bobby Stanton	031 4655535
Membership / Subscriptions:	Jovita da Silva	082 6919180
Backpacking / Day Hikes Convener:	vacant	083 2811288
Socials Committee	Barry Stapleton	082 6574345
Socials Committee	Brendon Cadman	082 4556986
Socials Committee	Jo Hall	031 5356203
Socials Committee	Lisa Guastella	082 8604043
Socials Committee	Marie von Bargaen	082 5027072

Tel: PRO: 072 226 2772

Fax: 086 504 3382

Postal Address: P O Box 37702
OVERPORT
4067

Website: www.mountainbackpackers.co.za

Email: info@mountainbackpackers.co.za

THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS TO THE CLUB

Claire Perrett	Chuma Ncobo
Kyle Louw and family	Rajen Peter and family
Jeremy Steere	Rob MacKillican
Jessica Westbrook	Cecile Balkema
Karen Clarence	Lee-Ann Conway and family
Otto Solomon	Robert Howes
Julia Tapsfield and family	Edith Futre
Cecile Cole	

Grading of hikes

1. Very easy trip
2. Easy trip
3. Moderate trip - physical fitness advisable
4. Strenuous trip - **physical fitness essential**
5. **Very strenuous** trip requiring a high degree of fitness

Please take particular note of **distance and height** as well as the **grading of the backpacking trip** you intend doing and ensure that your level of fitness is adequate.

**The Annual Club Campout will take place on the weekend of the 19th March at Bushwillow Park in the Karkloof Range. This is a camping and caravanning site with extensive forest walking trails, bird watching, etc.
Book now through a social committee member.**

January 2011

Date	Description	Distance Height	Leader	Contact	Grade
1	Springside Nature Reserve, Hillcrest. Start the New Year off on the right foot! Enjoyable walk through grassland, indigenous forest & pools. All the family welcome on this easy walk. Meet at Springside Reserve for 2pm. BYO braai.	4 km	Linda Marsden-King	083 6211687 a/h 031 7029138	1
8	Kloof Gorge. Come down Kloof Gorge and along Molweni River to base of Kloof Falls. Meet at Krantzkloof Picnic Site for a 2pm start. R15 per person Reserve fee. BYO Sundowners.	7 km	Linda Marsden-King	083 6211687 a/h 031 7029138	2
9	Beach walk to the whaling station and back. Refreshing rock pools to swim in along the way. Bring food, drink, cozzies and sunblock.	16 km	Sharon Jordan	083 6563231 e-mail: wildcoast@telkomsa.net	2
9	New circular hike through indigenous forest to base of 80m McIntosh Falls & then proceed to 30m Kirkman falls, exploring Umhlatuzana Shelters occupied 10 000 years ago. Hike duration 4hrs plus.	10 km 100 m	Dave Tighe	031 4649033 076 0280708	2
8-9	McKenzie's Cave , returning via Cyprus Cave. Mkhomazi area.	20 km 650 m	David Gay	031 7654246 (18h00 to 20h00 Mon-Thu only) cougar1@telkomsa.net	3-4
15	Longshadows Trail, Kloof. Hike upriver in the Krantzkloof reserve to the escarpment and down again. Meet at Krantzkloof Picnic Site for a 2pm start. R15 per person Reserve fee. BYO Sundowners	8 km	Linda Marsden-King	083 6211687 a/h 031 7029138	2
15-16	Hike to Aasvoelkrans Cave , Highmoor Nature Reserve. Suitable for hikers wanting to overnight in a cave for the first time. Includes a walk to bushman paintings, swimming & a 'river walk'.	10.5 km	John McGovern	082 6595111 between 6 & 8 pm,	2-3
15-16	McKenzie's Cave from Mkhomazi, great for first time backpackers and anyone who wants great views of the Drakensberg.	16 km 400 m	Farouk Omarjee	083 4190196 031 5776336	3
15-16	Injasuti - Backpacking hike to & overnight in Wonder Valley Cave - good venue for less experienced backpackers - lovely pool for swimming & stream for water close by. (Combined hike with Midlands Hiking Club).	15 km 400 n	Keith Ashton	033 2395023 keimarg@iuncapped.co.za	3
22	Training Course conducted by Gavin Raubenheimer. Abseiling at Monteseel.		Gavin Raubenheimer	Contact: Gavin 033 3433168 / 082 9905876 or Bobby Stanton 031 4655535 / 084 4655535	
22	Palmiet Nature Reserve , Westville. Walk through beautiful scenery to Cascades waterfall. Meet at Village Market carpark, opposite Westville Hotel, for a 2pm start.	7 km	Linda Marsden-King	083 6211687 a/h 031 7029138	1
22-23	Hike to Ledges Cave via Mweni Pass from the Mweni Cultural Centre. Return via Rockeries pass. Grand Traverse qualifier. Mweni area.	38 km 1700 m	Grant Wilkinson	073 6168789	4-5
22-23	Whyte's Cave via Giant's Cup Trail, Painters Cave and White Horse Cave. Return via plateau and ridge behind Wave Cave, then Hidden Valley. Garden Castle area.	32 km 690 m	David Gay	031 7654246 (18h00 to 20h00 Mon-Thu only) cougar1@telkomsa.net	3-4
22-23	Social Weekend with Day Hikes from Simes Cottage in Loteni. Cost R180 pppn. Max 10	15 km	Anitha Jaipal	031 2665207 082 4568739 after hours	2

	people. Option to spend Friday night there as well. Early booking and payment required to secure your place.			only or email aj@ProfPM.com	
29	Kloof Beacon. Downriver & up Kloof Gorge to the survey beacon on top of the escarpment. Meet at Krantzkloof Picnic Site, Kloof Falls Road for a 2pm start. R15 per person Reserve fee. BYO sundowners	7 km	Linda Marsden-King	083 6211687 a/h 031 7029138	3
29-30	Aasvoëlkrans Cave; return via Caracal Cave, Fulton's Rock and Ka-Dedakushe Falls. Highmoor area.	24 km 120 m	David Gay	031 7654246 (18h00 to 20h00 Mon-Thu only) cougar1@telkomsa.net	3-4
29-30	Relaxed hike to Pholela Cave from Cobham, young members encouraged to join.	28km 400m	Christine Bro	082 7826025 christinebro3@gmail.com	3
29-30	Sehlabathebe Lodge in the Sehlabathebe National Park, Lesotho, from Bushmansnek. Passport is required, R80 per person to sleep in lodge. Very scenic hike with a steep section. Return via Tarn Cave to Bushmansnek. Space limited to 12. Starting at 08h00 to avoid possible afternoon storms.	24 km 695 m	Eduard von Bargaen	Contact Eddie on 083 2811288 after hours.	3

February 2011

Date	Description	Distance Height	Leader	Contact	Grade
5	Mpiti & Porcupine Falls. Hike upriver from Kloof Picnic Site to see both waterfalls. Meet for a 2pm start. R15 per person Reserve fee. BYO sundowners	6 km	Linda Marsden-King	083 6211687 a/h 031 7029138	1
5	Combined MHC, Ramblers & MBC hike through plantations, indigenous forests & grasslands. Duration approx 6 hrs. Meet 08h00 at BP Garage on Shepstone Rd which is the main rd through Richmond.	12 km 100 m	Dave Tighe	031 4649033 076 0280708	3
5-6	Monks Cowl Campsite tenting: Hike to Verkykerskop above Sphinx. Pack lunch for Breakfast Stream stop. View "Alien" space landing site.	10 km 200 m	Arthur Bester	SMS me your email address or tel 083 4823590	2-3
12	Springside Nature Reserve, Hillcrest. Start the New Year off on the right foot! Enjoyable walk through grassland, indigenous forest & pools. All the family welcome on this easy walk. Meet at Springside Reserve for 2pm. BYO braai.	4 km	Linda Marsden-King	083 6211687 a/h 031 7029138	2
13	Hike the Bluff – see the harbour widening activities, old military installations, go down the the beach and visit the Millennium Tower. Meet at Glenwood Village Centre (Buxtons), Moore Road 7:30am.	11 km	Duncan Hiles	031-2029994 083-2297748	2
12-13	Overnight backpacking trip to Winterhoek Hut (via Black Eagle Pass on the Giants Cup Trail). Optional Friday night at Swiman Hut. Cost R75 pppn. Early booking essential. Payment secures booking.	26 km 400 m	Anitha Jaipal	031 2665207 082 4568739 after hours only or email aj@ProfPM.com	3
12-13	Tenting Trip to Hidden Valley, swim and enjoy relaxing hike optional visit to Rob's Cave. Great for Fist time backpackers. Garden Castle area.	15 km 100 m	Farouk Omarjee	083 4190196 031 5776336	3
12-13	Ngwangwe Cave via Bushman's River and Ngwangwane Pass, returning via Goats Cave, Lammergeier Cave, Surprise Cave and Cedric's Pool.	28 km 1260 m	David Gay	031 7654246 (18h00 to 20h00 Mon-Thu only) cougar1@telkomsa.net	4

	Bushman's Nek area.				
19	Training course conducted by Gavin Raubenheimer at Spirit of Adventure, Shongweni. How to plan a hiking expedition to high altitude. eg Killmanjaro, Mt Kenya, or Atlas Mountains. Cost R20 per person.		Gavin Raubenheimer	Contact: Gavin 033 3433168 / 082 9905876 or Bobby Stanton 031 4655535 / 084 4655535	
19	Kloof Gorge. Come down Kloof Gorge and along Molweni River to base of Kloof Falls. Meet at Krantzkloof Picnic Site for a 2pm start. R15 per person Reserve fee. BYO Sundowners.	7 km	Linda Marsden-King	083 6211687 a/h 031 7029138	2
19-20	Roland's Cave from Mike's Pass via Thuthumi Ridge and Organ Pipes Pass, returning via Thuthumi Pass. A head for heights is essential! Cathedral peak area.	28 km 1340 m	David Gay	031 7654246 (18h00 to 20h00 Mon-Thu only) cougar1@telkomsa.net	4-5
26	Longshadows Trail, Kloof. Hike upriver in the Krantzkloof reserve to the escarpment and down again. Meet at Krantzkloof Picnic Site for a 2pm start. R15 per person Reserve fee. BYO Sundowners	8 km	Linda Marsden-King	083 6211687 a/h 031 7029138	2
26-27	Social weekend with beach and coastal forest hikes. Bring your tent and braai goodies. Camping fees R80 per person. Canoe hire available at R75 per person. Don't forget mosquito repellent. Excellent bird watching opportunities. Families welcome. Optional Sunday lunch at the Prawn Shack at R160 pp for a seven course meal - an unforgettable experience awaits you! Please RSVP me by the 10th Feb to secure your place.	15 km 5 m	Marie von Bargaen	0825027072 after hours	2

March 2011

Date	Description	Distance Height	Leader	Contact	Grade
5	Mpiti & Porcupine Falls. Hike upriver from Kloof Picnic Site to see both waterfalls. Meet for a 2pm start. R15 per person Reserve fee. BYO sundowners	6 km	Linda Marsden-King	083 6211687 a/h 031 7029138	1
5	Beach hike: Isipingo to Reunion. Hiking, swimming and explore rock pools at Reunion Rocks. Bring snorkel gear if you have! Phone Tanya to confirm, meet at Glenwood village, Moore Road 8am		Tanya Hall	031 2076305 082 4147482	2
5-6	Kamberg/Highmoor area: Mountain Shadows Resort. Tel 033 2677493.for bookings. Enjoy real farm life in the Midlands and hike to the hidden time capsule to add your name.	10 km 200 m	Arthur Bester	SMS me your email address or tel 083 4823590	2-3
5-6	Hike to Wonder Valley Cave From Injusuti. Amazing Views of Monks Cowl and Cathkin Peak. Great for first time backpackers.	12 km 400 m	Farouk Omarjee	083 4190196 031 5776336	3
12	Training course conducted by Gavin Raubenheimer at Spirit of Adventure, Shongweni. How to handle a mountain emergency in the Drakensberg.		Gavin Raubenheimer	Contact: Gavin 033 3433168 / 082 9905876 or Bobby Stanton 031 4655535 / 084 4655535	

	Cost R20 per person. Compulsory for all prospective new leaders.				
12	Springside Nature Reserve , Hillcrest. Start the New Year off on the right foot! Enjoyable walk through grassland, indigenous forest & pools. All the family welcome on this easy walk. Meet at Springside Reserve for 2pm. BYO braai.	4 km	Linda Marsden-King	083 6211687 a/h 031 7029138	2
13	New hike : Richmond to Joseph Baynes cottage at Baynesfield. Meet in Pinetown at 6.50 am or at B.P. Garage, Shepstone Road (which is the main road) in Richmond at 08h00. Petrol Sharing costs R35	12 km	Dave Tighe	031 4649033 076 0280708	2-3
12-13	Lammergeier Cave is the longest cave in the berg hidden in a beautiful valley above Bushmansnek. We overnight in the cave and climb up to Goats Cave the following morning, The view from here is quite awesome! returning via Tomathu Cave. Bushman's Nek area. .	20 km 750 m	Eduard von Bargaen	Contact Eddie on 083 2811288 after hours.	3-4
12-13	Corncob Cave via Saddle Pass and Isicatula Pass, returning via Walker's Pass, Painters Cave and Giant's Cup Trail. Bushman's Nek area.	29 km 1330 m	David Gay	031 7654246 (18h00 to 20h00 Mon-Thu only) cougar1@telkomsa.net	4-5
12-13	Bushman's Nek - Backpacking to & overnighing in Whytes Cave (very comfortable cave - pool very close) - visit Painters Cave & White Horse Cave en-route. (Combined hike with Midlands Hiking Club).	24 km 400 m	Keith Ashton	033 2395023 keimarg@ iuncapped.co.za	3
19	Kloof Gorge . Come down Kloof Gorge and along Molweni River to base of Kloof Falls. Meet at Krantzkloof Picnic Site for a 2pm start. R15 per person Reserve fee. BYO Sundowners.	7 km	Linda Marsden-King	083 6211687 a/h 031 7029138	2
19-21	Annual Club Campout at Bushwillow Park, Karkloof. See above.				
26	Do something CRAZY!! Meet at Thomas More College, Kloof , in the middle of the night [2am to be exact!] and join us for the annual LONG WALK . You can do either 25km to the breakfast point, 55km, or for the very brave, 80km in one day. It is hectic and fun, you get fed along the way, get a foot bath and a wonderful massage at the end. [Oh, by the way, you get a medal as well!] You will need to start training now - contact me for a training program and entry form. Cost is R140 per person. Are you up to the challenge ?	25 km 150 m	Marie von Bargaen	0825027072 after hours	4
26	Longshadows Trail, Kloof . Hike upriver in the Krantzkloof reserve to the escarpment and down again. Meet at Krantzkloof Picnic Site for a 2pm start. R15 per person Reserve fee. BYO Sundowners	8 km	Linda Marsden-King	083 6211687 a/h 031 7029138	2

Note: It is the prerogative of a hike leader to accept or reject members or other applicants from participating in his or her hike, after questioning the applicant on their fitness and experience. It is a privilege not a right to participate in a hike.

Day hikers are requested to phone the leader beforehand to confirm their attendance and that the hike is still on schedule.

In order to fill the large gap that would have appeared in your magazine at this point, this being due to the absence of any articles on hiking by any of the 400-plus club members, I have included a section from the "Survival Guide for New Members", originally compiled for us by Dave Gay. Members will also note other large areas of "white space" in the magazine. In future we need your articles on hiking or other related activities to fill the magazine and create more interest.

Basic Kit List

Each hiker should carry most of the items listed here, although certain items (e.g. tent, stove, pots, lamp and spade) can be shared with a hike buddy. Only the leader usually carries a hiking compass or GPS, but you might want to get one yourself so you can develop your own navigation skills. A leader is entitled to inspect equipment before departure to determine if it is appropriate for the hike to be undertaken and for the expected weather conditions.

Backpacking Equipment

Backpacking equipment is very expensive and you will probably need to purchase your own over a long period of time. Buy the best you cannot afford, because being warm and comfortable makes a big difference when you are out in the elements. Your priorities should be a comfortable pair of boots, an appropriate, good-quality backpack, a warm sleeping bag and a fully waterproof rain jacket. Seek advice from experienced Club members rather than shop sales people. Members have had personal experience with equipment, whereas most sales people have not!

- Comfortable backpack (full, padded hip belt of correct size)
- Hiking boots (must have full ankle support)
- Sleeping bag (hollow fibre or down for winter, preferably with a cowl top)
- Hiking stove (gas is simplest and safest)
- Stove fuel (e.g. puncture / twist / screw-type gas cylinder)
- Gas lighter (matches are not very practical and can be a litter problem)
- Pots or billies for cooking
- Mug, bowl, knife, fork and spoon
- Dish cloth, drying towel and dish soap
- LED head-lamp / small LED torch / gas or LED hiking lamp / hiker's candle
- Ground sheet
- Hiking mattress (closed-cell / self-inflating / blow-up)
- Water bottle / hydration bag (must be accessible without removing backpack)
- Water bag (e.g. 5 litre wine bag with tap) for use in camp
- Small spade (for toilet and trenching)
- Large plastic bags / sack-liners for clothes and sleeping bag
- Small plastic bags for dirty / wet clothes and rubbish
- Hiking tent (4-season with aluminium poles)
- Map (Natal Drakensberg maps can be purchased at most Berg entry points)
- Compass and / or GPS
- Basic First Aid Kit (see separate list)
- Walking rope (optional; 20-25 metres of 7-9 millimetre diameter static climbing rope, but ordinary ski rope will do; this can be used to raise or lower backpacks on ledges, provide hand-holds in tricky places, etc, but is not for climbing on; one such rope per party should be sufficient for most situations)
- Walking pole/s or stick (optional, but very helpful when crossing rivers)

Clothing

There is a lot of good-quality technical clothing on the market, but it is expensive. For summer hikes many beginners use ordinary cotton T-shirts. However, cotton is unsuitable

for cold, wet weather and is referred to as a “death fabric” because it can absorb many times its own weight in water.

- Shorts (2 pairs)
- Shirts (short / long-sleeve; preferably technical, self-wicking fabric)
- Underwear (proper sports underwear can prevent chafing)
- Warm tracksuit / polar fleece longs and top (for sleeping)
- Hiking socks (wear two pairs at a time)
- Hat
- Sunglasses
- Costume and towel (a sarong is lighter and dries quicker)
- Fully waterproof rain jacket (rain pants optional)
- Polar fleece / soft-shell jacket for walking in
- Sandals / light shoes (e.g. Crocodiles / wet shoes) for campsite (these can also be useful for crossing rivers and can be carried outside the backpack for this purpose)

Additional Items for Winter Hikes

- 1 pair sports socks (for sleeping)
- Balaclava and scarf
- Waterproof gloves / mitts
- Walking longs (preferably technical; cotton jeans are unsuitable)
- Warm long-sleeve tops (technical / polar fleece)
- Thermal underwear (polar fleece / polypropylene)
- Sleeping bag liner / inner (polar fleece)

Basic First Aid Kit

It is not the responsibility of a hike leader or the Club to provide first aid items such as plasters and headache tablets. Participants must take these items along with them, especially if they are likely to need them (e.g. plasters if you are wearing new boots). In a genuine emergency the leader (or someone else in the group) may offer items for another member's use, but since they are not qualified medical personnel they cannot be held accountable for any outcomes. People can have violent and alarming responses even to very common medicines such as Aspirin, so it is the responsibility of the user to exercise his / her own discretion. No-one should be forced to take any medication against their will. While leaders may carry a basic First Aid kit, every participant should also carry their own, which at the very least should consist of the following:

- Plasters (assorted sizes)
- Headache tablets (e.g. Compral)
- Rehydrate (or similar)
- Anti-cramp tablets (e.g. Mag Phos, Slow-Mag or salt tablets)
- A costive (e.g. Betapiramide)
- Antiseptic cream (e.g. Zambuk)
- Anti-inflammatory (e.g. Deep Heat or Voltarin)
- 1X crepe bandage
- 1X triangular bandage
- 1X ankle guard
- 1X knee guard

You should also include any further items for which you have a specific need (e.g. asthma pump; antihistamines for bee sting allergies and hay-fever; blood pressure tablets, etc.). Choose a buddy and let him / her know where these items can be found in your backpack in the event of an emergency.

HambaNathi

“Walk with us” Guided Wild Coast Hikes

HambaNathi offers guided hikes along the Wild coast, South Africa's most beautiful, wildest and most exciting stretch of coast. Camp on unspoilt beaches, swim in magical rock pools, see an abundance of marine and coastal life. All hikes are fully catered. Transport and last night's accommodation in Mbotyi are arranged. Visit our Website at <http://www.wildcoasthikes.co.za> or phone 031 202 9994.

Southern Secrets Hiking and Backpacking

Discover some of the exquisite secrets of the Drakensberg Mountains and Lesotho, including visits to rock art sites, with a fully qualified and registered Mountain Guide (KZN0904) and Nature Guide (KZN1025). Single or multi-day trips.

Contact Philip or Christeen Grant 033 9971817 cell 0824179163/2 email pgrant@yebo.co.za or visit www.southernsecrets.co.za

Berg Free Adventures

David Sclanders runs single and multi day guided trips into the Berg, visiting rock-art sites, sleeping in tents, caves and mountain huts. He is a member of the South African Mountain Guide Association registered as a guide with the Department of Tourism, Registration Number KZN0050. He can be contacted on telephone or fax **033 239 5013, Cell 082 443 4287** or visit www.bergfree.co.za.

TOUR du MONT BLANC TRAIL

Have you ever wanted to do one of the best walking trails in the world? A trail through Alpine meadows and over 3 international passes. Join **WILDWAYS Adventures** on our 2011 trip to hike the **Tour du Mont Blanc**. For more information please contact Michelle on info@wildwaysadventures.co.za

NAVIGATION TRAINING WORKBOOK

NAVIGATION Anyplace Wild – by Andrew Friedemann This very practical workbook has tasks to complete in it, & is aimed at anyone who travels in the outdoors and needs to navigate. Although written primarily for walkers, it will work for anyone including horse riding, cycling, military teams etc. It has been fully revised and updated to be applicable anywhere in the world, so no matter where you are it will work for you.

The book is 160 pages in full colour with great pictures from all around the world where we have travelled, our guided trips and training courses – making it a great coffee table book too. It comes with a pull out map on which most of the tasks are completed and the website will have additional free tools available for download and in the near future additional tasks and maps for you to continue practicing skills and gaining knowledge once you have finished the book. Chapter 1 is downloadable for free from the website (*4mb*)

There have been a number of variations of the book over the years with each new one being tweaked after use on courses and from feedback received from people who have used it. Reviews of the book can be seen at www.navigationskills.com For all South African orders, please contact Mammoth Outdoor in Cape Town 086 100 0370 or hello@mammothoutdoor.co.za

Second-hand Boots For Sale

R200 ea or n.c.o. Ladies Hi-tec LONGITUDE size:UK 7 Mens Hi-tec UTAH size UK 11
Contact Tish on 031 7673499 (Kloof) after hours

Discounts For Members

CAPE UNION MART offers members 5% discount - **membership cards must be produced.**

OUTDOOR WAREHOUSE offers 5% discount when presented with a **valid membership card.**

BACKPACKING EQUIPMENT

In the past some members have not hiked because they did not have the necessary equipment, particularly winter gear. Our club has a full range of backpacking items, making it unique in KwaZulu-Natal. In addition to the backpacks and tents, there are sleeping bags, rain gear and gas stoves. Comfortable, warm jackets are for hire on club trips by MEMBERS only.

Hiring Fees

Deposit	Item	Daily Fee
R100	Tent	R20
R100	Backpack	R20
R50	Sleeping Bag + Liner	R10
R50	Gas Stove	R10
R50	Jacket	R10
R25	Mattress	R5
R25	Groundsheet	R5
R25	Poncho	R5

Example

For a weekend hike, to hire one backpack you will need to put down a R100 cash deposit. You will be charged R20 per day, so the hiring fee will be R40 provided you return the backpack by the end of the Wednesday following the hike. If you return the backpack on the Thursday you will be charged an additional R20. You will therefore be charged a total of R60, which will be taken from the deposit. The balance of R40 will be refunded to you in cash.

All arrangements regarding the hiring of Club equipment are to be made with **Piet Smit (Tel. 031-2662881)** and the items must be collected from / returned to him at **4 Bohmer Place (off Knoll Road, off Blair Atholl Road, Westville).**

Items must be checked (i.e. count pegs, poles etc.) and cleaned (i.e. wash inner sheet of sleeping bag). Tents, sleeping bags etc. are to be hung out and shaken before returning. If it has rained on the weekend, hang items out to dry as soon as possible after your hike.

SOCIAL CALENDAR – PLEASE NOTE THE VENUE

Directions to Sherwood Bowling Club - 860 Jan Smuts Highway

From Durban - Take N3 out towards PMB, after Tollgate take the Sherwood off-ramp and turn right under the freeway in to Jan Smuts Highway, up the hill, past Jungle Nursery on the right, turn right under the pedestrian bridge into Tropical Nursery parking, follow the road past trees to the back of the nursery.

From Westville - take the M13 towards Durban, past Westwood Shopping centre, through 45th Cutting traffic lights, down Jan Smuts Highway, turn left under the pedestrian bridge (in front of Naked Ladies) in to Tropical Nursery parking, follow the road past trees to the back of nursery.

From PMB, from Hillcrest take the N3 past the Pavilion and four-level interchange, take the Sherwood glide-off, keep left in to Jan Smuts Highway, past Jungle Nursery on right, turn right under pedestrian bridge in to the parking of Tropical Nursery, follow road to the back of Tropical Nursery.

SOCIAL CALENDAR	
MBC Socials take place every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at the Sherwood Bowling Club, 7:30 for 8:00pm Wors rolls or Hamburgers are sold at the venue for R15 each.	
DATE	DESCRIPTION
13 January	Social Braai starting at 5:30-6pm, bring your kids and a sense of fun, followed at 8pm by a presentation by Tanya Hall on her latest travels, part 1: Alaska, with it's fascinating wildlife and the Canadian Rockies. This is a Bring 'n Braai ie bring all your own food, only the fire will be provided.
27 January	Lisa Smith and Duncan Hiles present the hiking club's trip to the Klipspringer Trail (Aughrabies area) and share their paddling experience from Violsdrif down the Orange River for 4 days in crocs (inflatable canoes).
10 February	Don & Anita Van Luyk - Overland cultural & history trip through China, from Beijing to Hong Kong
24 February	Marie and Eddie von Bargaen – A 4x4 camping trip through Namibia via the Skeleton Coast and finishing at the amazing Etosha Park.
10 March	Sharon Jordan - A Solo, Motorcycling Journey of Exploration Join Sharon as she rides the 'less travelled route' to Namibia and back on her little 250cc dual purpose motorcycle. Tricky river crossings in Baviaanskloof and The Hell, scenic Augrabies, a flood in the Karoo, canoeing the Orange, 2 break downs and loads of fun en-route are all part of this incredible experience.
24 march	Paul Fay - A month long trek to the North Pole pulling sledges.

DIRECTIONS TO SPIRIT OF ADVENTURE AT SHONGWENI DAM

FROM DURBAN ON M13:-

- Travel on **M13** up Field's Hill
- Take **EXIT 33** off ramp marked **Shongweni/Assagay**
- Left at top of off ramp into **KASSIER ROAD** – petrol station on left and polo grounds on right
- Cross bridge over N3 and travel **+/- 1 km**
- First left to **Shongweni Dam**
- Pass Denny Mushroom Farm on left
- First right to **Shongweni Dam**
- Travel along this road for **+/- 6km** through the sugar cane and the Shongweni Village until you reach the Reserve gates.

FROM DURBAN ON N3:-

- Travel on **N3** towards Pietermaritzburg
- Pass through **Mariannhill Toll Plaza**
- Travel for **6 km** then take **EXIT 32 Hillcrest/Assagay/Shongweni off ramp**
- Left at top of off ramp and travel **+/- 1 km**
- First left to **Shongweni Dam**
- Pass Denny Mushroom Farm on left
- First right to **Shongweni Dam**
- Travel along this road for **+/- 6 km** through the sugar cane and the Shongweni Village until you reach the Reserve gates.

FROM PIETERMARITZBURG ON N3:-

- Travel on N3 towards Durban
- **NB** – Be sure NOT to take the glide off to Hillcrest
- Take **EXIT 32** off ramp marked **Shongweni/Assagay**
- Right at top of off ramp, over bridge over N3 and travel **+/- 1 km**
- First left to **Shongweni Dam**
- Pass Denny Mushroom Farm on left
- First right to **Shongweni Dam**
- Travel along this road for **+/- 6km** through the sugar cane and the Shongweni Village until you reach the Reserve gates.

Note: There is a R35 entrance fee in to the Shongweni Reserve

