

MIDLANDS HIKING CLUB FIXTURE LIST: JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2019

DATE	GRADE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	LEADER
Sunday 7 th July	Grade 1 7km	MIDMAR Easy morning hike around Midmar dam . Braai/picnic lunch after hike. R40 entry fee at main gate or Rhino/Wild card	Sue Rowley SMS OR WhatsApp 0732131314 sue524024@gmail.com
Sunday 14 th July	Grade 1 10km	UKULINGA FARM AND BISLEY NATURE RESERVE	Rob Melis email rob@pro-seed.co.za
THURSDAY 18 th July	Social evening	CAMPFIRE STORIES. Great hikes, scary hikes, funny people on hikes – Dave Sclanders will lead the way sharing hiking stories, together with long standing members of the hiking club. Church of the Ascension Hall, Brindy Road, Hilton - 7pm. Wine, tea,coffee and light snacks available	Free to members. Contact Penny Purchase Email chrispenny@telkom.co.za
Sunday 21 st July	Day hike Grade 3 12km	BLINKWATER TRAIL Greytown area Through private forest and open grasslands. Chances of seeing some wildlife. We will recce the hike on the 6th July. Dusty Shaw and Resident forester will be with so we can get to know the way and the area.	Dave Sclander - Book by e mail only with cell no & where you live. dave@bergfree.co.za Last booking Wed 17 July
Sunday 28 th July	Grade 3 12 km 500m	INHLOSANE PEAK from Mount Park . Another Big 4 hike.	Carolee Thompson 0784825003 email
Sunday 4th August	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
Thurs 8 th Aug to Sunday 11 th August	Weekend camping	ROCKY BAY CARAVAN PARK, Park Rynie. Camping Rates are R235pppn, pensioner couple R285pcpn. Check in from 12:00 on Thursday. Hikes on local 12 or 19km trails and at Vernon Crookes Nature Reserve. Book early.	Brian Henwood - 0826556359 or bhhenwood@gmail.com
Sunday 18 th August	Day hike Grade 3 13km 200m climb	KAMBERG 3 CAVES HIKE New area for hikers - visit 3 out of the way caves. Visit area not visited by hikers at all. Great views of steep valleys, and hike along steep stream beds . Lovely streams. Bring hiking sticks and your hill climbing boots. Takkies not allowed. Fitness required R40	Dave Sclander - Book by e mail only with cell no & where you live. dave@bergfree.co.za Last booking Wed 14 Aug
Sunday 25 th August	Grade 2 15km hike	BAYNESFIELD MTB PARK & REC CLUB, Baynesfield Estate. Turn off R56 about 2km beyond Thornville.	Brian Henwood - 0826556359 or bhhenwood@gmail.com
THURSDAY 29th August	AGM	Church of the Ascension Hall, Brindy Road, Hilton 6pm. Please join us to have your say in club matters followed by a delicious meal and wine. Free to all club members. RSVP BY THURSDAY 22nd FOR CATERING	Cathy Nixon 0846932340 cathy.amies@gmail.com
Sunday 1 st September	DAY HIKE	CUMBERLAND NATURE RESERVE	Libby Deysel libos999@gmail.com 0607374999
Monday 2 nd - Wednesday 4 th Sept	Weekday cottage/camping	SPIOENKOP / EMSENI . Following the British route taken in 1899 and staying over at Emseni camp on the banks of the Tugela. Simon Haw would meet us at the top to give us an informative tour of the battlefield R320pp 2 nights self-catering or R180 2 nights camping plus guide /entry fees R100. Booking by 18 th August.	Alistair Nixon alanixav@gmail.com WhatsApp 0836606657
Sunday 8 th September to be confirmed	DAY HIKE Grade 2+ 12 - 15 km	KARKLOOF. - Day hike through EVERDON ESTATES led by Cecil Hackney who knows the area better than anybody else. Some of the most spectacular views in the area including Umgeni and Karkloof rivers	Peter Wedge email polyserv@futurenet.co.za 0837777500
Sunday 15 th September	Day Hike Grade 3 12km 150m easy climb	MKHOMAZI CYPRESS CAVE . Situated 35 km from Nottingham Road on the Lotheni Road. Tar road most of the way. Come and walk up to Cypress Cave, for the very strong a lovely pool to swim in. Great views up to the tops of the valleys up to Highmoor Ridge R40 pp	Dave Sclander - e mail only with cell no & where you live. dave@bergfree.co.za Last booking Wed 11 Sept
THURSDAY 19 th September	Social evening	PONDER PONDOLAND. Carolee Thompson and Penny Purchase will give a presentation on their Wild Coast hike enjoyed in May this year. Church of the Ascension Hall, Brindy Road, Hilton - 7pm. Wine, tea, coffee and light snacks available	Free to members. Contact Penny Purchase Email chrispenny@telkom.co.za
Sunday 22 nd September	Grade 1 DAY HIKE	ENDEBENI FOREST LIDGETTON Enjoy the beauty of a magnificent 147ha garden full of azaleas open only for a short time in spring. R50	Alistair Nixon alanixav@gmail.com WhatsApp 0836606657
Sunday 29 th September	Day hike Grade 2+ 6 hours	Annual CLIVIA hike in KARKLOOF. See the indigenous clivias in bloom, then have lunch at Grey Mare's Tail falls. Hike is in pristine indigenous forest. Meet at Bushwillow Park in the Karkloof from 8 am. We start walking at 8.30 am sharp. Combined hike with Durban Ramblers.	Neville Lee neville.lee@clariant.com 083 626 9983

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.