

# MIDLANDS HIKING CLUB FIXTURE LIST: SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2020

revised 9/10/2020

DATE	GRADE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES	LEADER
Sat-Sun 10-11 October	Grade 3 Cave	MKOMAZI - CYPRUS CAVE - Ideal for first time backpackers or others as we can explore from the cave – waterfall above the cave & pool below – Max 6 hikers. LAST BOOKING MONDAY 5 <sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER	Keith Ashton by e-mail only. Please include cell number. <a href="mailto:keimarg@iuncapped.co.za">keimarg@iuncapped.co.za</a> Fee R80 Per person
Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Grade 3 13 km	DE MAGDENBERG Circular route. 350m climb through plantation, grassland & indigenous forest on forestry roads and cattle tracks.	Chris Dobson 0824611954
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Grade 2 10 km	YARROW FALLS Includes viewing at 2 Bird hides. R50 per person	Margret Kirsten 0837837852 <a href="mailto:mjikaway41@gmail.com">mjikaway41@gmail.com</a> Book by email only by 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct
Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Day hike 14 kms 5 – 6 hrs	AROUND HOWICK – Symonds Stream Conservancy, Beacon Hill and river walk. Snack at Treaterly after hike.	Peter Wedge <a href="mailto:polyser@futurenet.co.za">polyser@futurenet.co.za</a>
Saturday 31st October BLUE MOON Full Moon Walk	Grade 2 MHC MEMBERS ONLY 3 hrs. walk +/- 4 kms each way. Fairly flat along old crest road. Easy walk.	HIGHMOOR-BLUE MOON – FULL MOON NIGHT HIKE Arrive Saturday and pitch tent at the cars. Early arrivals can do an afternoon walk. After supper head for Windy Knoll on the way to Caracal Cave. If the sky is clear, see the berg and for kilometers around. Easy walk along a good path, great for stars. Sunday will do a walk somewhere for those who want. NOT like last year. DO SOMETHING YOU HAVE NEVER DONE, OR WILL DO AGAIN.	Dave Slanders – email only <a href="mailto:dave@bergfree.co.za">dave@bergfree.co.za</a> Last booking Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> Oct. Book by email only with cell contact & where you live. Day entry fee R45 Camping Fee R90
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Grade 2 12 kms round trip	SUNDAY WALK FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT DO THE NIGHT WALK HIGHMOOR – Join the Saturday night hikers on a circular walk. Come and do a surprise walk to new places and sights on Sunday. Finish the walk by 15.00h. There will be some cross country stuff. Bring good walking boots/shoes.	Dave Slanders – email only <a href="mailto:dave@bergfree.co.za">dave@bergfree.co.za</a> Last booking Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> Oct. Day entry fee R45
Friday/Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup> November	We cater for everyone	NATIONAL HERITAGE NATURE PARK, KAMBERG Come early. Full variety of facilities and activities. Day hike on Saturday. Accommodation for 18 persons in 3 luxury self-catering cottages each with 3 double rooms. Special price R300 ppn.	Brian Henwood 0826556359 <a href="mailto:bhhenwood@gmail.com">bhhenwood@gmail.com</a>
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Grade 2 15 kms	PRESTON FARM – KARKLOOF ROAD Park at Karkloof Market and hike from there.	Margret Kirsten 0837837852 <a href="mailto:mjikaway41@gmail.com">mjikaway41@gmail.com</a> Book by email only
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Grade 3 3 – 4 hr hike	ST. HILLIER LAKE, HILLCREST Through Giba Gorge Nature Reserve to Mackintosh Falls and Bike Park, then up to the rim of Winston Park escarpment. Lovely scenery and pleasant views.	Brian Henwood <a href="mailto:bhhenwood@gmail.com">bhhenwood@gmail.com</a>
Saturday 28th November		MHC CHRISTMAS PARTY Shawswood, Karkloof. 23km from Howick on Karkloof/Rietvlei Road.	Penny Purchase 0789483730 <a href="mailto:chrispenny@telkomsa.net">chrispenny@telkomsa.net</a>
Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> November			
Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Grade 2 + Day hike 16 kms	HOWICK – UMGENDI VALLEY Several different trails – lovely views down to the Umgeni Valley & beyond – several animal species & birdlife. LAST BOOKING WEDNESDAY 2 <sup>ND</sup> DEC.	Keith Ashton by email only <a href="mailto:keimarg@iuncapped.co.za">keimarg@iuncapped.co.za</a> Please include cell number. Entrance fee R35 per person
Sunday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Grade 1 Easy 8 km	MIDMAR DAM - Hike and picnic. Social hike around the boating side of the dam	Sue Rowley SMS OR WhatsApp 0732131314 <a href="mailto:sue524024@gmail.com">sue524024@gmail.com</a> Entrance fee R45 or Rhino/Wild card
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Grade 2 Day Hike 14 km	CUMBERLAND NATURE RESERVE Hike up to the kranz. Picnic lunch at picnic site. Hike round horseshoe after lunch.	Libby Deysel 0607374999 <a href="mailto:libos999@gmail.com">libos999@gmail.com</a> R40 pp

## **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.

<b>GRADINGS OF HIKES</b>	
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.

