

EAST RAND HIKING CLUB

July & August 2018 Newsletter

IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

East Rand Hiking Club Contact Information

For all account queries and proof of payments please direct all emails to:

accounts@eastrandhikingclub.co.za

For all new memberships or queries on memberships please direct all emails to:

membership@eastrandhikingclub.co.za

For all general enquiries please direct all emails to:

info@eastrandhikingclub.co.za

Website & Facebook:

www.eastrandhikingclub.co.za

Our Facebook page is up and running and in full swing. Please do not hesitate to post HIKING photos, message or notifications of HIKING events that you would like us to know about.

Log onto Facebook and search under pages for: East Rand Hiking Club

If you have any suggestions or comments please let me know. I am even open to a little criticism -but not too much. My email address: sarahann0105@gmail.com



WELCOME!

Welcome to all our current members, new members and prospective members. We hope to see you all on the trails soon

Platinum: Honorary members

Gold: Memberships paid in full:

This will entitle you to a 20% discount on all hikes as well as a 10% discount on all merchandise sold by The East Rand Hiking Club. You will also get priority on hiking waiting lists

Silver: No membership fees paid

This will entitle you to book hikes and buy the merchandise sold by The East Rand Hiking Club at full price

Single: R 290.00 – current members R 315.00 – new members

Family: R 425.00 – current members R 450.00 – new members

Family membership has now also been extended to immediate family not necessarily living with you



THINGS UP FOR GRABS!

WE are happy to announce that our inventory and variety of items is increasing. We now have the following up for grabs:

ERHC First Aid Kits	Gold Member: R 125.00	Silver Member: R 140.00
ERHC T-Shirts	Gold Member: R 135.00	Silver Member: R 150.00
ERHC Howzit Seats	Gold Member: R 350.00	Silver Member: R 390.00

Orders and payments can be made to the club. Simply email Karen or Alex or Sarah



HAPPY HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

We would like to wish the following people a very happy birthday from all of us at The East Rand Hiking Club. May your year ahead be filled with health, happiness and tons of hiking!

Lauren	Meek	7	Aug	
Joss	Roberts	17	Aug	
Julie	Harries	25	Aug	
Heather	de Bruin	26	Aug	
Chris	Jones	10	Sep	
Tony	Kartounis	10	Sep	
Lana	Petushkov	28	Sep	Turns a very beautiful 40 this year
Terry	De Beer	10	Oct	
Alex	Elshove	18	Oct	

HIP, HIP, HOORAY, MAY YOU ALL HAVE A WONDERFUL BIRTHDAY 😊

If I have missed anyone's special day, please let me know so that I NEVER miss it again!



WHAT IS HAPPENING IN SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER & DECEMBER!

Our yearly planner has been launched but please keep an eye on the website, facebook, newsletters and your emails for updates. Any hike suggestions please email info@eastrandhikingclub.co.za

DATE	EVENT	Gold Member	Silver Member	LEADER	DETAILS
2 Sep 18	Spring day social meet and greet at Modderfontein Nature Reserve	Pay at the gate		Sally: 0824140140 or Sarah : 0795172207	Join us at 7am to hike the morning away or join us at 12:00 for a bring and braai meet and greet. Chat about hikes coming up and meet your leader. Sarah will lead the hikers
22 Sep 18 - 24 Sep 18	Queen Rose Backpack/ Slackpack	Hike Fully Booked	Hike Fully Booked	Sally: 0824140140 or Sarah : 0795172207	One of my favourite "abbadventures" perfect for families and beginners. Fees to be paid to ERCH
22 Sep 18 - 24 Sep 18	Kaapschehoop Backpack with Boksburg Club	R130.00 per day per person Pay to Boksburg		Heather 0828296043	Join the Boksburg Hiking club on this oldy but goodie
6 Oct 18 - 7 Oct 18	Somabula Base Camp	Hike Fully Booked	Hike Fully Booked	Alex: 0824463752	We've done this hike so many times before but now we get to sleep in the Ox Wagons
14 Oct 18	Windy Brow Day Hike	R80.00 Pay to the club	R80.00 Pay to the club	Wendy 0823102710	Easy 10-12km day hike out in Cullinan
28 Oct 18	Sable Ranch Day Hike	Pay at the gate		Stuart 0833041316	New hiking trail, a little hard but not to long. 5KM from Hekpoort
10 Nov 18	Social at Alex's House/ Nauklauft Reunion	Free		Alex 0824463752 or Sally 0824140140	We will be doing the photo sharing day at Alex's house. Bring your eats, drinks, cameras and hard drives.
16 Nov 18 - 18 Nov 18	Whataba Base Camp	R480.00	R600.00	Alex 0824463752	Don't miss out on this beautiful family friendly hike
8 Dec 18	Christmas Braai	TBC	TBC	Sally 0824140140	More details to follow closer to the time
15 Dec 18	Castle Gorge Day Hike	R60.00 Pay at the gate	R60.00 Pay at the gate	Eddie 0834478582 Tonie	No markings, no maps but lucky for us our leaders know exactly where to find the hidden pools
28 Dec 18 - 1 Jan 19	Cederberg Pakhuis Trail	R4300.00 Pay to the club	R 5400.00 Pay to the club	Graeme	4 Nights Pakhuis trail through the Cederberg Mountains. Food, transport (during hike) & a guide all included



STORY TIME!

Suikerbosrand Backpack Hike

13/07/2018

The participants

Alex Elshove, Cynthia Webber, Carol Cronje, Izak Greyling, Christine Greyling, Sarah Cook, Stuart Simpson, Doug Cattin, Kevin Healey, Talfryn Harris, and Galiema.

The plan started out as a practice backpack for the Naukluft hikers so we could do as final equipment and leg test before heading off to Namibia on the 4th of August.

However, somehow people got wind of this plan and before you know it we had 12 participants. For those that have hiked in Suikerbosrand you will know that 10 is the max. to complicate things further we had 7 people starting on Friday the 13th and hiking to Springbok and we had 5 starting on Saturday morning and meeting the first group at Steenbok on Saturday.

To further complicate things the two groups planned to meet up at Blesbok hut for coffee before continuing on Saturday.

And to further complicate matters the Springbok hut group decided to split up and Mike, Stuart and Alex would go to the Blesbok Rendezvous and Doug, Carol and Cynthia would go the more direct route and Kevin decided he would hike out as he had work commitments.

Doug, Carol and Cynthia got to the Steenbok hut quite early and settled in. Cynthia even went for a walk to keep warm.

Mike, Stuart and Alex arrived at Blesbok at 08.30 for a 10.00 Rendezvous with the Sarah, Izak, Christine, Talfryn and Galiema group. It was so cold that by 10.00 Mike, Alex and Stuart had decided to move on and they just met the other team coming down to Blesbok. (They had had a bit of a late start) So the Sarah, Izak, Christine, Talfryn and Galiema group wanted to have coffee so a further complication was introduced. They would go and have coffee at Blesbok and then take the more direct route to Steenbok and Mike, Stuart and Alex would continue on the route past the Duiker turnoff.

A lot of hiking took place on that day but eventually everyone arrived safely at Steenbok Hut. The Reserve management had kindly arranged for extra mattresses and so we all settled in for a pleasant afternoon and evening.

It was still very cold and so the fire was lit earlier than originally planned and the Booze was out earlier than planned as well. Some people were braaiing but many of us were trying out our dehydrated concoctions for Naukluft and recipe swapping was rife. Because of the cold and patchy rain, it was an early night for everyone.

The next morning there was again a complication. Doug, Carol, Talfryn and Galiema decided to take the more direct exit route and the rest decided to take a bit of a longer route. The weather was quite horrible with mist at first and then cold patchy rain. Because of this there were not many stops and the First group got to the car park at 10.00 and met up with a very brave Eddie and Jeanette who had also just finished the Bokmakiri day hike. The second group came in at about 11.00.

Apart from the weather we all had a great time. The hiking was great. Each group saw different game from Eland to Jackal and Hartebeest to Zebra. In the evenings we were serenaded by the Jackals and a weekend in the bush is ALWAYS special.

Thanks everyone for making the weekend special.



IT FEELS GOOD TO BE LOST IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

***IN EVERY WALK WITH NATURE, ONE RECIEVES FAR MORE THAN
ONE SEEKS***