

MOUNTAIN CLUB



Mountain Club of South Africa – Eastern Province Section

MEET SHEET WINTER 2017



- **Newcomers and friends are welcome.**
- **To all interested in the outdoors the Club offers:**
 - **A friendly and entertaining Social every Thursday Evening at 19:30 at the Clubhouse, EPVCC, Conyngham Road, Port Elizabeth. Always interesting guest speakers.** [view on Google Maps](#)
 - **Adventure mountaineering and hiking** – see overleaf for details of these meets which happen every weekend and vary from easy walks to real adventures. If you are interested you must contact the meet leader either at the Thursday evening social or by phone.
 - **Rock Climbing** – a very active group of rock climbers organize meets almost every weekend. This is co-ordinated by e-mail. Some of their meets are in this meet sheet. Contact Alana Changfoot 083 500 0439.
 - **Search and Rescue** – the Club has an active Search and Rescue unit as a service to the community with regular training and practises. If you are interested contact Shelley Puffet on 083 630 3903 or email on sar@epmcsa.org.za .
- **Check our website for details** – www.epmcsa.org.za
- **Visit us on Facebook** at Mountain Club of South Africa – Eastern Province Section.
- **If you need more information about the EP Section** – please contact Club Secretary Viera Wagener on 0828687820 or email on info@epmcsa.org.za .

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING GENERAL & REPEATING MEET ANNOUNCEMENTS:

DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED

AD HOC MEETS

Members of the Club who want to organise a special meet of their own and who want to invite the members to join them are welcome to do so through the Club's regular channels of communication and to have this counted as an official meet. To do this the name of the leader and a description of your meet should be emailed not later than the Thursday before the event to Club Secretary Viera Wagener (info@epmcsa.org.za) and to Meets Convenor Gavin McLachlan (gavinmcl@gmail.com). Once Viera and Gavin are happy with the notice of a meet it will be sent out to all members and put on the web site.

DATES TO BE ANNOUNCED

SEARCH AND RESCUE PRACTISE

Leaders: **SHELLY PUFFET 083 630 3903 CHARL LOTTER 082 707 4188**

Details of any practise will be announced nearer the time. This may be in the form of a full S&R practice possibly involving other emergency services as well. These are major exercises and we encourage all to participate.

EVERY WEEKEND

ROCK CLIMBING

Co-ordinator: **ALANA CHANGFOOT 083 500 0439**

There are rock climbing meets virtually every weekend. These vary from beginners rock meets to challenging rock climbing and may include bouldering. The nature of these meets is that they often get arranged at short notice. The co-ordinator is Alana, if you are interested in joining them you must contact Alana and find out what is going on.

EVERY WEDNESDAY

LADY'S SLIPPER

Leaders: **TERTIUS COETZEE 082 927 0440 & GAVIN McLACHLAN 083 272 6300**

Every Wednesday afternoon a group meet at 4:15pm at the Lady's Slipper property (phone the leaders if you are unsure of the meeting place) and climb our own Lady's Slipper. The actual climb uses the existing footpath and usually starts at 4:20pm and is over by 6:15pm. The group often follow the climb with an inexpensive meal at a country restaurant.

SCHEDULED MEETS:

6 – 7 MAY

KOUGA KOP

Leader: **ANTON McLACHLAN 072 337 0928**

Kouga Kop is the high peak more or less in the centre of the Kouga range. The party will drive out on Saturday afternoon and camp for the night, and on Sunday we climb the peak.

13 – 14 MAY

FORMOSA HUT AND ROBBERG

Leader: **TREFOR LLOYD 083 966 0636**

Trefor is planning to get to the hut on Friday afternoon and spend Saturday doing some maintenance and enjoying the vicinity of the hut. Sunday he will do the spectacular Robberg circuit.

21 MAY

VAN STADENS MOUTH TO GAMTOOS

Leader: **GEORGE PEARSON 078 925 4704**

This is a wonderful beach walk along a magnificent sandy beach backed by huge sand dunes. Lots of coastal birds to observe, especially the Oyster Catcher, marine mammals too, and in the dune slacks many surprising things including pre-historic middens and pottery shards.

28 MAY

LADY'S SLIPPER CIRCUIT

Leader: **TERTIUS COETZEE 082 927 0440**

Join us for a climb of the Slipper via an interesting route through the Agapanthus colony. After a rest on top we will walk to a high point on the back ridge with great views. After lunch we return home in the mid afternoon. Bring water for the day, lunch and all weather gear.

28 MAY

MAITLAND FARM AND FOREST

Leader: **DOT HALL 072 947 9753**

There are some lovely trails through the coastal forest at Maitland. Bring water and lunch.

3 JUNE

ST FRANCIS SAND RIVER DUNES

Leader: **ANNA HAY 083 225 8563**

The Sand River near St Francis is part of a unique inland dune system on the western side of the Bay. Great landscapes and interesting wildlife are to be found in the area. Bring lunch, water, all weather gear and a few Rand for coffee and cheesecake at the harbour afterwards. If the weather is not good the meet may be postponed to the Sunday. For this reason you need to advise the leader or Tertius Coetzee the PE Co-ordinator for this meet of your intended participation not later than the Friday before the meet.

3 – 4 JUNE

COCKSCOMB GORGES FAMILY CLIMBING MEET

Leader: **TIM JONES 082 781 1770**

The camp site we are going to use is easily accessible and provides a fine setting in the gorge. The aim is to spend the weekend exploring the gorges and doing some rock climbing. Children are welcome and we will make sure that some of the climbing is suitable for them.

11 JUNE

MERMAID POOL

Leader: **JEFF FERREIRA 083 780 6162**

A day trip is planned to this exceptional mountain pool. For the brave bring costumes, for the rest of us the usual equipment for an enjoyable day hike.

16 – 17 – 18 JUNE

HOEKOP / BBC / FORMOSA

Leader: **VIERA WAGENER 082 868 7820**

Three days to explore this majestic ridge in the Tzitzikammas including a night in BBC cave high above the Langkloof.

18 JUNE

ZWARTKOPS ALOES

Leader: **JENNY RUMP 082 577 0832**

A day hike along the trail above the brick fields is planned. The aloes should be in full bloom and quite spectacular as are the views down into the Zwartkops valley.

24 – 25 JUNE

FEATHERSTONE KLOOF

Leader: **RICHARD GRANT 083 237 8752**

This will be a combined meet with the Grahamstown based Oldenbergia Hiking Club. Richard's plan is to do the 17 km trail on Saturday and he will arrange overnight accommodation in Grahamstown for Saturday night. On Sunday he has other plans which may involve a coastal hike. Please contact Richard well in advance so that he can make the necessary arrangements.

1 – 2 JULY

OLIVE SCHREINER SARCOPHAGUS

Leader: **ZETA MICHAU 082 822 7521**

Zeta has many friends and family in the Cradock district and she will arrange that we can camp on a nearby farm and will lead the climb up Buffelskop to the final resting place of Olive Schreiner and those she held dear.



8 – 22 JULY

DRAKENSBERG NATIONAL CAMP

Local Co-ordinator: **GAVIN McLACHLAN 083 272 6300**

The Drakensberg July National Camp this year will be run from Saturday 8 to Saturday 22 July. The Camp this year is in the Cathedral Peak area near to Mike's Pass. This is one of the most stunning parts of the Berg. The Camp is organized by the KZN Section who provide a well organized base camp in a sheltered valley in the Little Berg with central catering and ablutions. You must bring your own tent and equipment. There will be numerous day meets as well as four and five day trips up to the escarpment. With a bit of luck it will snow and we will be treated to the magnificence of the Berg draped in white. Either way this is a unique chance to experience South Africa's greatest mountain range that is not to be missed. Gavin will be attending the Camp this year and will co-ordinate transport arrangements from Port Elizabeth to the Camp. Contact Gavin if you are interested.

8 – 9 JULY

BERGPLAAS / UPPER WITTE

Leader: **WERNER ILLENBERGER 083 626 1917**

We will camp at Bergplaas at the high eastern entrance to the Baviaanskloof and may use the cottages there. The intention is to explore the Mac ridgeline and the upper Witterivier kloof which is normally quite difficult to get to from our property lower down the kloof.

16 JULY

BUFFELSVLEI

Leader: **ALBERT SCHULTZ 083 459 1541**

Buffelsvlei is in Groendal so bring your Groendal fees. An easy to moderate walk along the jeep track and then up to the vlei where we might see some interesting wildlife.

22 – 23 JULY

COCKSCOMB COMBINED

Leader: **RICHARD GRANT 083 237 8752**

Richard will be leading a Cockscomb from the North meet over this weekend. The party will be a combined EP Section and Oldenbergia Hiking Club party. They will spend the night in T'Numqua and climb the peak on Sunday.

29 – 30 JULY

ZUURBERG

Leader: **DAVE ZIMMERMAN 083 630 4593**

Dave might be able to arrange access to a unique spot in the Zuurberg with camping and hiking. More details nearer the time.

5 – 6 AUGUST

KOUGA WILDERNES

Leader: **FRANCOIS SEARLE 082 904 3086**

This will be an exploratory meet with camping in the Kouga Wilderness and some hiking.

12 – 13 AUGUST

THUMB PEAK

Leader: **WERNER ILLENBERGER 083 626 1917**

Thumb Peak lies off the western Langkloof in the Tzitzikammas. This is a peak that we have not often visited. Tents will be needed for the camp on Saturday night.

19 – 20 AUGUST

FORT FORDYCE

Leader: **MAGNUS WAGENER 079 350 2554**

The weekend will be spent climbing and bouldering and enjoying this delightful place.

26 – 27 AUGUST

WITELS PEAK

Leader: **PAUL MARTIN 073 252 4111**

Witels is one of the high peaks in the Tzitzikammas. We will drive down on Saturday afternoon and camp there on Saturday night. On Sunday we will climb the peak from the East.

2 – 3 SEPTEMBER

HOGSBACK

Leader: **JEFF FERREIRA 083 780 6162**

We are going to camp in the camp ground at Hogsback although we might have a meal at the hotel. Bring tents etc. We will hike up to the Hogs and Giaka's Kop and explore the area.

10 SEPTEMBER

LADY'S SLIPPER WORK PARTY Leaders: **WERNER ILLENBERGER 083 626 1917 & TREFOR LLOYD 083 966 0636**

Come along and help with some alien fighting and essential maintenance at our property and afterwards we will have a pint or two at Falcon Rock.

16 – 17 SEPTEMBER

TANDTJIESBERG

Leader: **FRANCOIS SEARLE 082 904 3086**

This unusual peak is near Graaff-Reinet and it's a long time since we climbed it. Francois will lead from a base on a nearby farm. This is also an opportunity to sample the delights of the "Jewell of the Karoo".

23 – 24 – 25 SEPTEMBER

PEAK Y

Leader: **VIERA WAGENER 082 868 7820**

This fabled peak lies deep in the Tzitzikammas. The party will hike in on the first day, make a base camp, climb the peak on the second day, and hike out on the third day. If you love our coastal mountains this one is not to be missed.

23 SEPTEMBER

VAN STADENS FLOWER RESERVE SPRING HIKE

Leader: **LISA EDEN 081 881 8811**

There are a number of trails at the reserve and Lisa will be leading a group around a most interesting route. The spring flowers will be out in all their loveliness. Children and all are welcome. The walk will take us into the early afternoon after which we will have a Spring picnic lunch in the reserve picnic area to celebrate the equinox and the approaching warmer weather.

30 SEPTEMBER – 4 OCTOBER

GROOTRIVIERBERG CAMP

Leader: **GAVIN McLACHLAN 083 272 6300**

The Grootrivierberg are the most northerly of the Cape fold mountains in our region. They lie north and west of Steytlerville in the eastern Karoo. I am hoping that we can base camp in a great camp site in the Grootkloof. From there I aim to climb Flat Toppie (in memory of Raymond Packwood), Die Toring, Jackops Kop and Trompettersberg. These are magnificent mountains with rugged Karoo terrain and nights with stars that gleam like jewels in the sky. All welcome.

1 OCTOBER

BLINDEKLOOF

Leader: **BERT OLIVIER 072 386 4292**

We will hike up to the staircase ridge and drop into Blindekloof there and work our way upstream to the cattle track where we exit the kloof. Groendal fees will be required.

8 OCTOBER

VAN STADENSRIVIERBERG

Leader: **TOM PROUDLOCK 072 707 2516**

Van Stadens River Berg is the peak immediately to the West of the van Stadens River Gorge. We approach it through the new Crossways estate. An easy climb with wonderful views from the top into the Gamtoos valley and along the coast.

14 – 15 OCTOBER

DIAZ CROSS FAMILY WEEKEND

Leader: **TIM JONES 082 781 1770**

We will sort out camping or accommodation at Bushmans River Mouth and spend Friday night and Saturday night there. The walk to the Diaz Cross along the beach from Bushmans is about 10km and we will take our time and enjoy the stroll. There are lots to do in the river as well. Children are welcome.

21 – 22 OCTOBER

ELANDSKROON

Leaders: **CLIFF HOPKINS 082 784 3242 & PAUL MARTIN 073 252 4111**

A weekend of camping, hiking and birding with two of Port Elizabeth's real bird experts. More details nearer the time.

28 – 29 OCTOBER

COCKSCOMB FROM THE NORTH-WEST

Leader: **MAGNUS WAGENER 079 350 2554**

Magnus intends trying the old route from the north-west. This is a rugged route that eventually brings one to T'Numqua where the party will spend the night. They will climb the peak as well.

29 OCTOBER

BOULDER SHELTER

Leader: **TERTIUS COETZEE 082 927 0440**

This meet takes us into the heart of Groendal to a delightful lunch spot in Skelmskloof where a small kloof joins the main kloof from the north and a large boulder forms a damp overhang . Most of the route is on footpaths but the descent and climb out at Skelmskloof is over open country. Bring lunch, water, all weather gear and a torch in case our return is delayed.



MOUNTAIN CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA
EASTERN PROVINCE SECTION

P.O. Box 5578, Walmer, 6065

e-mail: info@epmcsa.org.za

www.epmcsa.org.za

	Position	Name	Contact Number
Port Elizabeth	President	Tertius Coetzee	082 927 0440
	Chairman	Francois Searle	082 904 3086
	Vice-Chairman	Tim Jones	082 781 1770
info@epmcsa.org.za	Hon. Secretary	Viera Wagener	082 868 7820
	Hon. Treasurer	Chris Jones	082 559 4356
	Entertainment		
	Hut Warden	Werner Illenberger	083 626 1917
	Conservation	Paul Martin	073 252 4111
	Meets Convenor	Gavin McLachlan	083 272 6300
	Rock Climbing	Alana Changfoot	083 500 0439
	Search & Rescue (Manager)	Shelley Puffet	083 630 3903
	Search & Rescue (Training)	Charl Lotter	082 707 4188
Grahamstown	Mountaineering co-ordinator	Richard Grant	083 237 8752
East London	Rock Climbing co-ordinator	Garvin Jacobs	083 961 0044

GENERAL INFORMATION

- ◆ Visitors and prospective members are welcome to attend Club meetings on Thursday evenings (see our entertainment programme). 19:00 for 19:30 at the Veteran Car Clubhouse in Conyngham Road, Port Elizabeth. Entrance is at the junction of Conyngham and Ascot Road.
- ◆ A sign-up list for outings is put out at meetings and leaders provide briefings as to requirements and what can be expected. One may also contact leaders prior to Thursday evenings. Briefings on each weekend's meets are held on Thursday evenings at the Club. Completion of a sign up list may be required (it is not always put out or completed any more). Participation on any meet is subject to the discretion of the leader and to any other limitations restricting attendance.
- ◆ It is up to participants to gauge their own abilities and fitness levels. It is best to start off on easy outings and to progress from there. It will also give you the opportunity to find out what equipment and clothing is needed.
- ◆ Inform the leader of any medical condition that should be known, prior to the meet taking place.
- ◆ Mountaineering has many unknowns and dangers. If getting lost, suffering vertigo and battling inclement weather and scratchy vegetation are your scene in your pursuit of great adventure, you are at the right place. However please note that the Mountain Club cannot be held responsible for any misfortune or accident that may befall you.
- ◆ Leader's decisions are final and are to be respected at all times.
- ◆ Leaders must acquaint themselves with the Club's guidelines for leaders. All members of a party must complete the meet register and indemnity form before all meets.
- ◆ The meet register and indemnity form can be downloaded from <http://epmcsa.org.za/hiking/resources/>
- ◆ All Mountain Club and Nature Conservation rules and regulations are to be strictly obeyed. Membership cards to be carried on meets at all times.
- ◆ MCSA Properties: Visits to all EP Section properties except Slipper must include an MCSA Member.
- ◆ Cockscomb, Witte River, Lady's Slipper, Formosa Hut, Hoeree servitude: speak to Hut warden about current regulations.
- ◆ Hut permits are now issued electronically. Applicants must apply a minimum of 3 days before going to the hut in order to allow time for the Hut Warden to inform the foresters.
- ◆ Groendal Wilderness Area: 041 9919912
- ◆ Kouga-Baviaans Area - Komdomo office: 042 2830227
- ◆ Accommodation bookings: Komdomo, Doodsklip, Rooihoek, Bergplaas, Geelhoutbos and Doornkraal – phone Zukie (043 7424450) or e-mail (reservations2@ecparksboard.co.za). Hiking permits are also available from this number.
- ◆ Before crossing privately owned land ensure that you have permission to do so.