

MOUNTAIN CLUB



Mountain Club of South Africa – Eastern Province Section

MEET SHEET

WINTER 2018



- **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 Dale Gathercole 079 624 7090
 - **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 Francois Searle 082 904 3086 or Tim Jones 082 781 1770 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 Co-ordinators: **FRANCOIS SEARLE 082 904 3086 & TIM JONES 082 781 1770**
Details of any practise will be announced nearer the time. This may be in the form of a full S&R practise possibly involving other emergency services as well. These are major exercises and we encourage all to participate.

EVERY WEEKEND

ROCK CLIMBING

Co-ordinator: DALE GATHERCOLE 079 624 7090

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 Dale, if you are interested in joining them you must contact Dale 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 MAY

HAMMERKOPNESKLOOF

Leader: PAUL MARTIN 073 252 4111

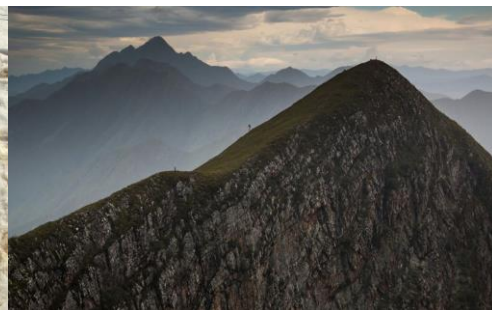
One of the less frequently visited kloofs in Groendal with the possibility of following the Bush Pig Trail back to the cars. Groendal fees required.

13 MAY

GROENDAL PLATEAU & THE GREAT DIVIDE

Leader TERTIUS COETZEE 082 927 0440

Depart from PE at 07:00. Carry lunch. Water, torch and all-weather gear. We plan to travel light and fast as it will be a long day if our attempt to reach this seldom visited geographical feature is to be successful.



19 – 20 MAY

SEARCH AND RESCUE PRACTISE

Leaders: FRANCOIS SEARLE 082 904 3086 & TIM JONES 082 781 1770

Details will be announced nearer the time. The intention is to hold a full S&R practice possibly involving other emergency services as well.

20 MAY

FERNKLOOF

Leader: ROLAND GATHERCOLE 078 189 7868

Come along for a delightful day hike up the lovely Fernkloof in Groendal with a swim at the top of the kloof for those brave enough to take to the water. Groendal fees required.

27 MAY

EMERALD POOL & EEL CAVE

Leader: SIMONE THEUNISSEN 081 271 3337

Meet at 8 in the parking area at Groendal for the hike across the plateau to Emerald Pool. Picnic at the pool and a swim for the brave. Groendal fees required.

3 JUNE

AQUILLA KLOOF & ROOT FALLS

Leader: TREFOR LLOYD 083 966 0636

A day hike up above the Groendal Dam to a kloof that is seldom visited. Bring usual day gear plus Groendal fees.

9 – 10 JUNE

FORMOSA HUT FAMILY WEEKEND

Leader: FRANCOIS SEARLE 082 904 3086

Francois will book the Hut for this weekend. We will explore the area, visit the pools and big tree and enjoy Saturday night braai. Children welcome.

17 JUNE

PORT ALFRED BEACH WALK

Leader: RAY BASSON 082 568 4378

We are thinking of the beach walk from Port Alfred to Riet River as a day walk. The beach is often at its best in the cooler months when the sun is not so fierce. More details nearer the time.

23 – 24 JUNE

PEAK FORMOSA & THUMB PEAK

Leader: TREFOR LLOYD 083 966 0636

Trefor will probably want to drive down on Friday afternoon and camp near Louterwater in the Langkloof, climbing Formosa on the Saturday and Thumb Peak on Sunday.



30 JUNE – 14 JULY

DRAKENSBERG JULY CAMP

EP Co-ordinator: GAVIN McLACHLAN 083 272 6300

This year the July Camp will be in the Bushman's Nek Area. Details still to be announced. I am co-ordinating those going from our section. I will be going for the first week and would be delighted to share transport with you.

1 JULY

ELEPHANT CAVE & BUFFELSVLEI

Leader: NEILL PURDON 082 655 7582

Hike up the jeep track past Vygeboom Kloof and then up to Elephant Cave after which we climb up onto the southern plateau to visit the Buffelsvlei. If we have had reasonable rains there will be birds and possibly animals on and around the vlei. Bring water for the day, lunch and the usual gear and there are Groendal fees to be paid.

8 JULY

VAN STADENSBURG

Leader: JUDY BURROWS 084 673 1541

An easy day hike up the koppie just to the west of the van Stadens Gorge. Afterwards the possibility of refreshments at the Crossways Restaurant.

15 JULY

VYGEBOOMKLOOF

Leader: TOM PROUDLOCK 072 707 2516

This very special kloof is accessed fairly high up from the jeep track. There will be a limited amount of pool wading so bring your rockers or crocks. Groendal fees required.

21 – 22 JULY

SEARCH AND RESCUE PRACTISE

Leaders: FRANCOIS SEARLE 082 904 3086 & TIM JONES 082 781 1770

Details will be announced nearer the time. The intention is to hold a full S&R practice possibly involving other emergency services as well.

21 – 22 JULY

SHELL CAVE

Leader: **CHRIS JONES 082 559 4356**

We will be spending the Saturday night in Shell Cave and exploring the area around February Peak. More details later.

28 – 29 JULY

TYGERHOEKBERG

Leader: **NEILL PURDON 082 655 7582**

The intention is to climb Tygerhoekberg from the north possibly spending a night in a cave. Tygerhoekberg is the second highest peak in the Groot Winterhoek range and affords wonderful views down the Zunga valley towards Uitenhage.

28 JULY

ROCK CLIMBING

Leader: **DALE GATHERCOLE 079 624 7090**

Rock climbing on the krantzies near Port Elizabeth in the Van Stadens Gorges – details to be announced nearer the time.

5 AUGUST

MORDENAARSKOP

Leader **TERTIUS COETZEE 082 927 0440**

Mordenaarskop is in the southern part of the Groendal reserve. We will access it from the jeep track. It is quite a long walk. Bring water, lunch and Groendal fees.

9 – 10 – 11 – 12 AUGUST

HOGSBACK

Leader: **JEFF FERREIRA 083 780 6162**

Let's use this potential long weekend to have some fun and do some climbing in the Hogsback area. Jeff wants to book self-catering accommodation there and being a long weekend, he needs to book and pay early. If you want self-catering accommodation then watch out for an email from Jeff and respond and pay promptly.

18 – 19 AUGUST

WITTE RIVER FAMILY WEEKEND

Leader: **TIM JONES 082 781 1770**

Children welcome, bring tents and camping gear and come along and enjoy exploring this beautiful kloof. For the brave there is swimming in a large and magnificent pool.



25 - 26 AUGUST

MAC PEAK

Leaders: **CHRIS JONES 082 559 4356, MAC DE JAGER & YUSEF POURRAHIM**

Mac is the high peak to the west of Cockscomb. The intention is to climb it from the north, spending Saturday night camping on a farm. Tents and the usual gear required.

1 – 2 SEPTEMBER

NIVERA & DIE GEWELS

Leader: **GAVIN McLACHLAN 083 272 6300**

This may be our last chance to visit this stunning place as our old friends, Eddie and Wilna may be selling their farm. There is rock climbing on Die Gewels for those interested and hiking up the Witberg for the hikers. Bring tents and the usual gear.

8 SEPTEMBER

ROCK CLIMBING

Leader: **DALE GATHERCOLE 079 624 7090**

Rock climbing on the krantzies near Port Elizabeth in the Van Stadens Gorges – details to be announced nearer the time.

15 – 16 SEPTEMBER

SEARCH AND RESCUE PRACTISE

Leaders: **FRANCOIS SEARLE 082 904 3086 & TIM JONES 082 781 1770**

Details will be announced nearer the time. The intention is to hold a full S&R practice possibly involving other emergency services as well.

16 SEPTEMBER

KINI BAY TO SARDINIA BAY BEACH WALK

Leader: DOT HALL 072 947 9753

Spring along the coast with flowers in bloom is always a delight. This will be an easy day hike but bring water and lunch and don't forget a hat and sun block.

22 – 23 – 24 SEPTEMBER

FIG TREE CAVE

Leaders: GAVIN McLACHLAN 083 272 6300 & TREFOR LLOYD 083 966 0636

We intend using the southern dam route to get to Fig Tree Cave which will be an excellent base for exploring the Zunga above the dam. If we have a wet winter and the dam is fairly full one will probably have to swim across the upper reaches. More details nearer the time. Bring weekend gear and possibly a costume and fishing rod for the bass.

29 – 30 SEPTEMBER

SCHOLTZBERG

Leader: PAUL MARTIN 073 252 4111

Scholtzberg in the Baviaanskloof range is only one or two meters lower than Cockscomb. Paul will lead this party most probably from the north up the northern kloof and ridge to the mountain. Camping in the on a farm south of Steytlerville. Tents and the usual gear required.

7 OCTOBER

MERMAIDS POOL

Leader: JEFF FERREIRA 083 780 6162

Hike up the Nerina Ridge to the plateaux and from there down into Skelmskloof to have lunch at Mermaids Pool. Back again via the Cattle Track. Bring water and lunch as well as sun block and Groendal fees.

13 – 14 OCTOBER

FORMOSA HUT & GRENADIER'S CAP

Leader: TREFOR LLOYD 083 966 0636

We will be spending the weekend at the Hut with a special braai party on the Saturday night. We will visit our big tree, swim in the pools and on Sunday climb Grenadiers Cap. Hut fees required.

20 – 21 OCTOBER

ROSE COTTAGE

Leader: DOT HALL 072 947 9753

We might be able to drive over to Rose Cottage in the upper Zunga where we will camp. This location gives access to Tygerhoek from the south as well as access to the Zunga with its pools and caves.

27 – 28 OCTOBER

COCKSCOMB

Leader: FRANCOIS SEARLE 082 904 3086

Our classic Cockscomb weekend. Climbing up to T'Numqua cave on the Saturday and doing the peak on the Sunday morning. Saturday evening we will have a festive braai in the cave. Everyone must bring a couple of pieces of firewood. Parking fees required.



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 (<i>Standing in</i>)	Tertius Coetzee	082 927 0440
		Hut Warden		
		Meets Convenor	Gavin McLachlan	083 272 6300
		Rock Climbing	Dale Gathercole	079 624 7090
		Search & Rescue	Francois Searle Tim Jones	082 904 3086 082 781 1770
	Without Portfolio	Werner Illenberger	083 626 1917	
	Without Portfolio	Jeff Ferreira	083 780 6162	
	Without Portfolio	Gerhard de Jager	078 171 3095	
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 may be 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 or the Secretary 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: Kondomo, 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.