

• MCSA Hottentots Holland Section

MCSA HOTTENTOTS HOLLAND SECTION

NEWSLETTER

November 2004 to January 2005

Secretary: Nina Nezura 8418119 (w) or: 073 1463845 NinaN@appletiser.co.za

Chairman: Ulli Deutschländer 887 5393 (h) 808 3365 (w) or: 0723423615 ugkd@sun.ac.za

Find more about the MCSA on the website <http://hot.mcsa.org.za> <http://mcsa.org.za> and www.uiaa.ch

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SATURDAY 6th November 2004

**At the SSW 2nd Scout Hall,
Drama Street 107, SOMERSET WEST
See attached Agenda and Nomination forms !**

All members and visitors are welcome to join us for a:

BRING and BRAAI before the AGM at 6 pm

Drinks will be provided by the Club

The official AGM will start at 8pm

Some necessary changes to our Section's Constitution will be discussed

Slides of the meets in 2004 will be shown afterwards

The membership fees for the year 2005 will be as follows:

Single	R140	Couple	R170
Single over 60	R125	Couple over 60	R155
Junior	R120	Newsletter by post	R20

Please send your subs as soon as possible to MCSA, PO Box 1100 SSW 7129 and we will send you the 2005 sticker for your membership card. The fees also include the journal.

Members who receive their journal through other sections should subtract R50, the same counts for juniors, who are children of a "Mountain club family".

Those who are often in mountains "belonging" to Cape Nature and National Parks may find it worthwhile to buy a "Wild Card". Visit the Web side www.capenature.org.za

The current Wildcards are replaced by a new variant which combine Cape Nature reserves and National Parks in clusters; but existing Wildcard will remain valid until they expire. The type "Cape Cluster" will cost R170 per individual, R 295 per couple and R395 per family. Other types are available for other geographical areas like: "Dry Cluster", "River Cluster", "Bushveld Cluster" and "All inclusive Cluster" (R195 pp) . Find more info on the last page!

PAST MEETS

Matroosberg, snow trip

Wayne Kitney, 7 & 8 August

Two cold fronts in one weekend! Sounds pretty nasty when you got plans to spend a night out on a berg? Unless you have been waiting patiently all winter to get into some of that cold, white, fluffy stuff. So for six of the HH Search and Rescue team it was exciting news. The owner of the Matroosberg farm had agreed to give us free use of his mountain for snow training. So on Saturday 7 August we decided to make use of his generous offer. After a relatively hardcore 4x4 trail up the mountain, we found a suitable campsite in the lee of a peak at about 4:30 pm. The snow on the south facing slopes was up to 30cm thick. Not much, but enough to generate a rather large grin factor amongst us Capetonians. We managed to pitch two tents successfully; the third blew down into the 900m deep gorges, OOPS! This meant that there were three men in one tent, and three men and a blow up mattress in the other. The blowup mattress got a bit cranky so Wayne went and slept in the Bakkie. It snowed for a while and then rained for the remainder of our stay. We survived the night, coldest temperature recorded being -8°C . Next morning we went and did some serious playing in the snow. We learnt how to walk and arrest a fall with Trekking poles and ice axis. Most importantly we learned how cold and wet you get when you don't have the right gear. We packed-up in record time and passed a few amazed 4x4 drivers on our chilly decent. All in all a fantastic mission. Just like to thank Wayne from the bottom of our hearts for organizing the trip and for humoring our childish excitement. (D. Wright)

Langklippie Ridge

Stephen Tillemans, 22 August

A group of about eight of us met at the gate of Vergelegen and then drove up to the hut. After unsuccessfully locating the old journal in the hut that contains the route description we decided to 'wing it'. From the cars we headed up the forestry roads and then onto a faint path through the proteas. Eventually the path petered out and so we had to 'bundu bash' our way up through the thick bush. We then headed up a small rocky river bed to the right of Langklippie Ridge until we reached the base of the cliffs. We traversed along the base of the cliffs until we reached a very steep little gully in the centre of Langklippie Ridge. We scrambled our way up there until we eventually reached a large grassy slope; it was at about this point the clouds started to move in very quickly. With no sight of where we were heading we used our discretion and turned back down. Back at the hut we enjoyed some beers with our fellow mountain club members. We'll have to return soon to re-discover this classic route above our hut.

Kathedral Piek, Jonkershoek

Ian Thompson, 29th August

Four of us met at the Jonkershoek gate, at 8am. We left the car at Witbrug waiting for our return. The ascent up to the Nek was an unforgiving up hill, as we made it in good time. Along the way to Bergriviernek we met up with a group training for the Boland 90. Ulli had an in depth conversation with them picking up on were improvements could be made in the organization of future Boland 90's.

From the neck onwards the going got ruff. The terrain had little scrambles. There is no path, and very few beacons. One of our team members just could not go any further, so we all had a good rest overlooking the long Jonkershoek Valley and returned past fields of spring flowers and proteas the same way we came. The cool water under the Witbrug was refreshing like only mountain water can be. It was a another good day in the mountains!

Triplets, Jonkershoek

Alfons Kiefer, 12th September

The weather promised to be mild, with chances of cloud on the mountains. We walked up Swartboskloof, enjoying the cool shade on the way up. The reward at the top was the beautiful view over the Hottentots Holland basin. We (the cowardly majority at least) decided not to climb the Triplets, at 1500m about 400m higher than we were at that point, but to carry on. Most descend down the Kurktrekker, but some opted for the Panorama route via the Bergriver nek, descending at speed and managed to get to the "White Bridge" together with the others, where we could rest in the shade. A wonderful day's walking. (Text:Wulf Eilers)

Vineyard Trail

Richard Loos, 3rd October

19 members and 'prospective members' set out from Oude Libertas on an overcast and windy morning. The trail ascended through a wooded area and came out on Papegaairant with views of Stellenbosch on one side and Devon Valley on the other. From then on it was through the vineyards, past the Protea Heights to the steep slog au Bottelarykop which was looking its best with a variety of Spring flowers in full colour. Due to hazy conditions the views over the surrounding countryside were not as good as normal. After an early lunch in a sheltered spot below the "kop" we set out via Ribbokkop for home. During the course of the day the weather improved and discipline deteriorated, however we all arrived back safely on the farm Bonfoi where we had left cars. A pleasant and sociable day; distance hiked approximately 17km.

Three Sisters, Kleinmond

Adri Gericke, 9th October

Four members started off at 7h00 from Somerset West and were ready to start walking at 8h15, but rain kept us in the vehicles for a few more minutes. After the nearly wet start, the weather kept us guessing for some time, but it only rained few drops after that first downpour.

The veld was fine with plenty flowers, despite the rainy weather. No signs of veld fire damage were visible. There were two other groups with us in the area. This time no whales could be seen from the mountain. The short climb had us home in Somerset West by 3pm.

The leader apologises to the ones in the group that were pressurised into walking faster than was comfortable to them.

Paarl Rocks

Stephen Tillemans, 17 October 2004

A large group of twelve headed off in overcast conditions to climb the granite monolith of Paarl Rocks. Paarl Rocks has recently seen a lot of bolting activity, both old routes re-bolted and new routes. As most people quickly discovered granite climbing is vastly different to the usual sandstone climbing as there are usually no grips and you have to rely almost entirely on friction to keep you on the rock. The friction was made worse in the morning due the light rain but later the sun came out and the rock dried up completely. Almost everyone climbed 'Belly Button Brigade', a two pitch grade 15 climb as well as 'Dyke', a 2 pitch grade 14 climb which gets its name from the obvious dyke (a sort of channel found on granite) that the first pitch follows. In the afternoon David, Gareth, Nicky and myself climbed 'Sands of time', a 4 pitch grade 18 climb with all the aspects of a climb that make it a true classic. Everyone went home with a whole new perspective of climbing and a respect for granite.

Agter Tafelberg

Alvin Page, 23/24 October

Full of confidence we set forth in the blazing heat of Saturday afternoon in our trusty steeds – Ulli's Toyota corolla and my Opel cub. On the way up the pass we had to stop for a water break for Opel, who was by that time getting rather thirsty. The rest of the trip to the parking sight was uneventful free-wheeling on the downhill to save fuel. We hadn't anticipated the long walk in at such a heat. Half way to the Agter Tafelberg hut we were given a lift, past the houses to the trout farm, but we still had to trod up the many serpentines of the pass before we arrived at the hut. There we all tested if we could stand the ice cold water with a refreshing swim.

Fritz had already arrived at the hut at midday and was very happy to be there again after some 35 years. Reports that this hut is one of the most beautiful in our area didn't disappoint with some of us sleeping outside on the porch overlooking the river – or we tried to anyway, the full moon doing a sterling job of preventing much sleep and later the dew fell on our sleeping bags.

Next morning we left at 7h30 and after crossing a river climbed straight up the peak. Nick almost stepped on a puff adder on the way up and we saw a gymnogene flying along the lip of the peak. We left and Armand was first at the top on a beautiful plateau with interesting rock features and charming little waterfalls. Onwards we scrambled up the highest ridge for fabulous views down to Wemmershoek, the many farms around Simonsberg and the sheer rockface of the Agter Tafelberg next to us. It felt a long way back to the hut which we reached for lunch and for a good snooze until the even longer slog back to the cars. All in all an interesting hike to lead and there is plenty of bouldering opportunity for climbing enthusiasts.

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Wayne Kitney is our **Rescue Convener**.

His cell phone is **082 335 3896**

Our S/R team was again busy in several rescues and searches.

The team did an excellent job at the Boland 90, caring for the hikers and helping with the lake crossing. A great "Thanks" to all of them !

There are regular rescue exercises on Helderberg College, concerning rope work, stretchers, radio comms, search strategy etc. Please phone in if you are fit, available day or night and willing to give your best.

In case of an mountain accident phone Metro: 948 99 00 or 948 9917

ROCKCLIMBING

Stephen Tillemans is responsible for rock meets. Contact him at **082 3757940**

JOHNSON HUT

We will celebrate on November the 20th the 40th anniversary of the Johnson Hut.

See the details in the Meets List

Viljoen Thom is our hut convenor. He can be contacted at **072 1786918** for hut bookings, which should be done at least 3 working days in advance.

To collect the hut key, visit him at 10 Arlington street, off Fairmead street, Helena Heights.

The Hut fees are R5.00 per member, R10 per non-member and R3 per child under 18.

Access to "Cape Nature" Areas:

Book at 021 4832949

SAN Parks and Cape Nature have introduced the "**WILD CARD**" that gives SA residents "special" entry to National Parks and /or CN areas. See their webside www.parks-sa.co.za

From this year on we can no more purchase an annual permit for the CN areas and everyone will **either** have to buy a Wild Card **or** buy a daily permit for private meets. The price for day permits went up to R20pp for Cape Nature areas and R45pp for wilderness reserves. Inquire for overnight permits prices when booking your hike.

NOTE: Although if you own a Wildcard: You still have to book for hikes in CNC areas through the Cape Town Booking office !!!

Permits for members at our section's official club meets will be sponsored this year by the club, as arranged by the Meets Leader.

Voyager Miles scheme:

Another appeal to members to join the SAA Voyager Scheme (all it takes is filling in a form from any travel agent) and then sending on the membership number to the secretary).

"SA Mountain Magazine":

The full colour, full size climbing -cum- mountain magazine is on the market! Available at Outdoor shops and certain bookstores. Published quarterly.

"Adventures Walks & Scrambles in the Cape Peninsula", by Karen Watson
a new book , available at Hatfield street and leading bookshops for R105.

Only now we sadly report the death of our founder member Bettie Rowswell and of Pam Ackermann who died earlier this year .

A warm Welcome to the new members: Dudley Rowswell and Armand Smit

The 2005 MCSA Calendar, single page A2 size, is available from the Secretary for R30

MEETS LIST

November 2004 to January 2005

- AGM and Social Evening**, 6pm for 8pm See front page! **Saturday 6th November**
This time at the SSW 2nd Scouts Hall, Drama Str 107
- Silvermine** **Sunday 7th November**
On the eastern side of Ou Kaapse Weg with great views over Kalkbay and Falsebay. Easy walk past lovely of fynbos. Mike Clemenson 8525248, 0825909200
- JOINT MEET MCSA WESTERN CAPE SECTIONS** **13th & 14th November**
Lots of options! You are all welcome to join in! See details next page.
- Slangolie, Rock climb** **Sunday 14th November**
One of the great classic Trad routes (18) above Camps bay. Read about it in the previous SA Mountain Magazine. Stephen Tillemans 082 3757940 or 5566880
- JOHNSON HUT : 40th Anniversary Celebrations !!!** **20th & 21st November**
Young and Old members from Near and Far are invited to celebrate the anniversary of the official opening of our Mountain Hut in December 1964. You could mingle with guests and founder members, enjoy a braai and free drinks on Saturday night, look at photos and a short film of the building of the hut, cool down in the rock pool at full moon, hike and climb the traditional routes next day. (All in your sixties outfit, if you like fun!) Viljoen Thom 0721786918
- Duiwels Kloof, Banhoek mountains** **Sunday, 28th November**
A spectacular kloof with refreshing pools and cool shade, whilst the summer heat lies heavy over the Boland. Indigenous forest and rare flowers. Not strenuous! Ulli 8875393 & 0723423615
- Bobbejanskloof, Bains Kloof** **Sunday 5th December**
Lovely pools in various places. Great mountain scenery! A beautiful waterfall at the end of an easy walk. Bring your Wildcard along! Wojtek Przybylowicz 887 2096 & 0825637925
- Wessels Gat,** **Sunday, 12th December**
Lovely and not to strenuous kloofing trip for the beginner. Great fun! Ron du Toit 852 3867
- Cedarberg** **16th to 19th December**
We will camp at Kromm rivier and undertake hikes up the Wolfsberg for rock climbing in the cracks and hikes to the arch. Many bolted climbing routes are waiting at Truitjies Kraal and lovely hikes to the Maltese Cross and Disapool. (Ulli D) & Mark Berry 418 0510(w) 0832869470
- Wishing you: A Happy Christmas and a great Mountaineering Year 2005---**
- Lower Kromm Rivier** **Sunday 9th January**
Walk along the river and later in a magic kloof with hanging fern gardens and bright red Disas and swim in a large pool under a waterfall. David Wright 0823279721
- Du Toits River Kloofing** (Teewater dam area) **Sunday, 16th January**
An easy, short and fun kloofing trip. Strops and takkies are fine. Ian Thompson 0823408988
- Spring Buttress** **Sunday, 23 January**
A classic B-grade scramble above Camps Bay. Ulli Deutschlander 8875393 & 0723423615
- Riviersonderend & Suicide Kloof** **Sunday 30th January**
A kloofing trip par excellence! One or both will be done. Viljoen Thom 0721786918

JOINT MEET MCSA WESTERN CAPE SECTIONS

13/14 November 2004

Table Mountain Hut

Climb Saturday and Sunday, braai (fires provided, you need to bring your own food), and socialise on Sat evening.

Note: we are not allowed to have fires outside the hut so braai-ing will be indoors, alternatively maybe think about a cold supper to be enjoyed in the garden.

Organised climbing / walking options:

Blinkwater Needle, grade D rock work, easy scrambling and an abseil.

Leader: Andy Lewis , Cell 082 887 7351

Climb Champs Elysee on Castle Buttress (ie to the right of Kasteelpoort path), before heading to the hut. Note: weather dependent.

Leader: Judy Moore (O) 021 887 4690 (H) 021 671 5967

Left face "B" route to the top, then to Maclear's Beacon, along the Smuts track then via the aquaduct and the Disa valley, have a look at the Waterworks museum and then to the hut on Saturday. On Sunday from the hut via the Apostle's track to the upper cable station, the down via the Fountain Ledge route and India Venster to the lower cable station.

Leader: Urs Huber 021 559 7947(h), 021 951 1205(w), Cell: 0847135545 uhh@nettex.co.za

Saturday - From Camps Bay along the Pipe Track, up Corridor, leave packs with 'pack watcher', over to Grootkop to enjoy the Yellow wood Traverse, and then back to collect packs and proceed to the hut. **Sunday** – either over to Maclears Beacon or climb on Postern D, back to the hut, collect packs and down Kasteels Poort. Leaders: Sonia Beard / GregMoseley

More info:

Sonia Beard 082 789 8806 : sonia@intermarket.co.za

Greg Moseley 083 763 9943 : moseleyg@zsd.co.za

Look forward to seeing you

International Climbing Meet, Magaliesberg,

23rd April – 1st May 2005

The Mountain Club of South Africa has invited climbers from all over the world to take part in an international climbing meet in South Africa. The meet will run from 23.4.2005 to 1.5.2005. We will have as a base the Mountain Club property at Cederberg Kloof, Magaliesberg. The climbing areas of Cederberg Kloof, Tonquani and Boulder Kloof are within walking distance. Many other Kloofs in the Magaliesberg will be visited, all within 30 minutes driving distance. From there we will have two to four day trips to other climbing venues, such as Blouberg, Krantzberg, Hanglip, Waterval Boven and the Drakensberg, each of them a prime climbing area. We will also offer day-hikes in the Magaliesberg or two to three day hikes in the Drakensberg to above 3000m.

We hope to introduce visiting climbers to some of South Africa's premier and most accessible climbing destinations and to give our MCSA members the opportunity to make contact and friends with overseas climbers from which they might benefit in the future. Anyone interested in joining the meet and acting as climbing partner cum guide for our guests or willing to help in any other way, especially with transport between the climbing areas, must please contact Ulrike Kiefer at ukiefer@icon.co.za. More details will be available on the MCSA website <http://www.mcsa.org.za/>. Logistics demand that we limit the total number of people, so an early booking is advised.

**NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE HOTTENTOTS HOLLAND SECTION OF
THE MOUNTAIN CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA**

SATURDAY 6th November 2004, 6 pm

**At the SSW 2nd Scout Hall
Drama Street 107, SOMERSET WEST**

All members and visitors are welcome to join us for a:

BRING and BRAAI before the AGM

Drinks will be provided by the Club

The AGM will start at 8pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
3. Matters arising from the Previous Meeting
4. Chairman's Report
5. Treasurers' Report
6. Search & Rescue Co-ordinator's Report
7. Johnson Hut Report
8. General (Motivation to the Constitution Changes)
9. Election of the Committee for 2005
10. Slide show of past meets in 2004

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF
THE HOTTENTOTS HOLLAND SECTION OF
THE MOUNTAIN CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Notice is hereby given that the above meeting will take place on
SATURDAY 6th November 2004, 6 pm

***At the SSW 2nd Scout Hall
Drama Street 107, SOMERSET WEST***

ELECTION OF 2005 COMMITTEE

NOMINATION FORM

Nominations are invited for the honorary offices of:

Chairperson

Secretary

Treasurer

Plus 3 additional Committee Members

and must reach the Secretary on or before the 6th November 2004.

Each nomination must clearly indicate the name of the nominee, the office to which he/she is nominated, the name of the proposer and seconder, and it must be countersigned by the nominee as an indication of acceptance.

Please use the form below and detach by cutting along the dotted line.

If you wish to make more than one nomination, photocopies are acceptable.

.....
Nomination Form for MCSA HH Committee

NOMINEE'S NAME (please print)

OFFICE TO WHICH NOMINATED

PROPOSED BY (Sign and print)

SECONDED BY (Sign and print)

DATE **NOMINEE'S SIGNATURE**.....

Motivations for the proposed Constitution Changes

Dear members of the MCSA HH section.

1. The Receiver of Revenue has noted that many so called clubs are actually using their tax exempt status to operate profitable businesses, such as trading and investing, which have nothing to do with the original aims of the club.
2. To retain our tax exempt status, we have to become a "Voluntary Organisation", and become subject to a set of principles and guidelines that make sure we don't misuse the club for personal gain.
3. The MCSA Central Committee has already changed their constitution to comply with these requirements, and we are following suit.
4. The changes in the constitution of our section relate to :
 1. Adding the preamble and schedules A and B from Cencom constitution.
 2. Remove rules relating to the Johnson hut on Vergelegen, leaving it to the committee to set up and change these from time to time.
 3. Adapt membership grade to reflect current practice, namely :
 1. Abolish life membership except for the few existing members.
 2. Change "Associate" to "Junior".
 4. Adapt composition and election of committee.
 1. Reduce time to nominate.
 2. Remove "Honorary" from office bearer names.
 3. Let committee choose office bearers.
 4. Remove clauses on powers of committee where these are duplicated in Schedule B.
5. The committee has already reviewed the constitution, and recommends its approval at the AGM in November.
6. **Please familiarise yourself with its contents before the AGM, as we will not be able to debate it clause by clause.**

Wulf Eilers