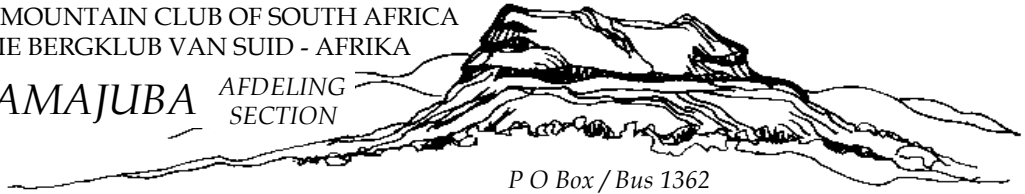


THE MOUNTAIN CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA  
DIE BERGKLUB VAN SUID - AFRIKA

**AMAJUBA** AFDELING  
SECTION



P O Box / Bus 1362  
Newcastle 2940

<http://ama.mcsa.org.za/>

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## **JubaJabber - Monthly**

**March 2011**

**News items**

### **Lief en Leed**

A sad piece of news that I received is of the death of Hannie Louw on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2011. For those that do not know, Hannie was our chairperson for a number of years. She was seriously ill for the last three years. She hiked all over the world and had the knack of getting lost, I think that is the one thing I will always remember about her, but even so she always came out unscathed. May she rest in peace. Have not heard of any other illnesses or deaths or otherwise, so I am assuming that all is well with our members and their loved ones.

### **Committee and Membership matters.**

Your committee for the year **2011** is as follows:

Chairperson: Thea Groenewegen – 0343123703 / 083 378 7655.

Vice-Chairman: Johan de Villiers – 072 712 7022.

Treasurer: Len Stoop – 078 598 1643.

Secretary: Inalize Oosthuizen – 073 240 9647

Social Convener and Publicity: Jandri Barnard – 084 580 3501

Climbing and Rescue: Ruan Adendorff – 082 577 7555.

Juba Jabber & e-mail: Adriaan Dippenaar – 082 337 2970 / [adriandip@telkomsa.net](mailto:adriandip@telkomsa.net)

Additional member: Estie Gunter – 072 325 5078

### **MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2011**

**Family membership is R250 per year**

**Single member R160 per year**

**Family pensioner R180 per year**

**Single pensioner R130 per year**

Members can pay their fees via cheque, cash or electronic transfer. Our banking details are as follows:

<b>Bank:</b>	<b>Nedbank</b>
<b>Account Holder:</b>	<b>MCSA Amajuba Section</b>
<b>Account Number:</b>	<b>1337163309</b>
<b>Branch Code:</b>	<b>133724</b>
<b>Reference:</b>	<b>Your initials and surname and Subs 2011</b>

## Recent outings by Amajuba Section Members.

### MOOIHOEK – 12/13 FEBRUARIE 2011

Saterdag oggend, gewapend met 'n kaart wat ek by Johann de Villiers gekry het, sit ek, Andrew en Ross af Mooihoek toe. Baie benoud oor ek nie behoorlik kan kaart lees nie! Hannelie Morris, die Voorsitter van Natal Afdeling, het vir ons GPS coördinate gegee, maar GPS programmeer en lees is nóg moeiliker as kaartlees!

Mooihoek is omtrent 180 km van Newcastle af. Die laaste 24 km teerpad (op die Luneburg pad) voordat 'n mens van die grondpad afdraai plaas toe, is ongelooflik sleg. Dit laat die Memel/Vrede pad na 'n vulletjie lyk. Dit het my 40 minute geneem om die 24 km af te lê. Dit is die een slagat na die ander! Selfs die grondpad was beter, want dit het ten minste nie sulke groot en diep gate en slote gehad nie. Saam met die drie ry-stoppe na Volksrust, het dit my ongeveer drie ure geneem om by my bestemming uit te kom!

Ek was baie verlig om Hannelie te sien en sy het sommer vir ons die laaste plaashek kom oopmaak. Na 'n oor en weer gegroeter en kennismaak met lede van Natal Afdeling, het ons gou kar afgepak en reg gemaak om te gaan stap.

Dit was 'n bloedige warm dag en ons het sonroom gesmeer dat ons soos Inka inboorlinge lyk, voordat ons die dag se stap aangedurf het. Die natuurskoon is pragtig in Luneburg omgewing. Daar was omtrent 360 grade om ons, net berge. Wat 'n lieflike uitsig! Ons het rustig gestap, want René met klein Daniël het saam gestap. Daniël is maar een jaar oud, maar stap soos 'n gesoute stapper. Hy het so te sê die hele pad self gestap na die rivier toe waar ons gaan swem het. Die rivier en poele is lieflik. Dit is nie een poel na die ander, en die rivier vloei so sterk, dan 'n mens by 'n stroomversneller inspring, en dan stoot die water jou uit tot by die ander kant van die poel.

Ek swem nie graag nie, maar dit was sò warm, en die ander het so heerlik in die water baljaar, dat ek toe ook gaan swem het. Die water was yskoud, maar is heerlik en verrissend as mens eers in is. Hannelie en Josh het saam met Andrew en Ross in die water baljaar en klein Daniël het nie op hom laat wag nie. Ma René moes vashou vir lewe en dood, want hy skop soos 'n wafferse swemmertjie. Ons het na die swem eers lekker piekniek gehou en droog gebak in die son. Ons was lekker lui en het besluit dat ons 'n baie rustige dag gaan hê. Ons het rustig teruggestap huis toe en het teen 15:00 by die huis aangekom.

Josh-hulle het 'n breë "strap", so ongeveer 'n meter van die grond af, gespan tussen twee bome. Hulle het dan soos wafferse akrobate daarop probeer loop en balanseer. My twee seuns het hulself ure daarmee vermaak, terwyl ek die heelyd bekommerd was dat ons naweek kortgeknip gaan word deur 'n gebreekte sleutelbeen of arm, as hulle dalk van die strap/tou af val! Gelukkig het hulle baie engeltjies wat oortyd werk om na hulle om te sien, en het hulle ongedeerd by die huis aangekom.

Ons was in totaal seker so 20 mense by Mooihoek die naweek. So deur die loop van die middag het stappers van alle dele van die plaas so stadig maar seker teruggekom huis toe. Ons het in die koelte gesit en kuier en vroeg gebraai. Dit was baie gesellig. Suzi het 'n paar jaar gelede ook Everest Base Camp toe gegaan, en ek en sy het heerlik gekuier en sy het lekker raad kon gee oor ons voorgenome uitstappie Everest toe. Sy is juis Maart op pad om die Anapurna Circuit Roete vanaf Katmandu of te doen. Suzi het behoorlik al die hele wêreld deur getoer, en dit was wonderlik om te sien dat iemand van haar ouderdom nog so fiks en avontuurlustig is. Voorwaar 'n voorbeeld vir baie van ons. Ons het redelik vroeg gaan inkruip, maar Ross het baie onrustig geslaap en op een stadium bo van die bunkbed afgeval. Hy het toe maar by my op die grond kom slaap vir die res van die nag.

Ons is Sondag oggend vroeg uit die vere en het gou ontbyt gemaak en sommer alles in die kar gepak, sodat wanneer ons van ons stap af terugkom, ons direk kan ry.

Ons was 'n groter groep wat vanoggend na 'n ander deel van die rivier toe gestap het. Die rivier is so groot en het die lieflikste poele orals langs die pad. Dit sou lekker wees om sommer 'n week lank daar te gaan ontspan.

Ons het weer geswem, gekuier, piekniek gehou en later terug gestap huis toe.

Dit was tyd om huiswaarts te keer en ons het ons nuwe vriende gegroet en die terugtog huis toe aangepak.

1) 08 March: Social and slides / Talk.

?

2) 19 – 21 March: Drakensberg, Chain Ladder, Three day hike.

?

3) 26 March: Balele – Utrecht, Day hike.

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## OF INTEREST

*Below is the letter read at the service of Hannie Low by Thea.*

**HANNIE LOW (1941-12-31 to 2011-03-17)**

In 2000, together with the new millennium, Hannie made history in the MCSA by becoming the first female Chairman, which was a great honour. Hannie sat in the Chair for 4 years, where after she filled the Vice Chairman post for a couple of years, due to the start of her illness.

We all knew Hannie as a strong leader and a person with a passion for our mountains – especially the Drakensberg, which she knew like the palm of her hand. Her all time favourite is Gatberg, and we will always think of her when we see it. Hannie would go to the mountains and come back very humble and appreciate how much she has compared to the poor people she met on her way.

Hannie was not limited to the boundaries of our own Country, but hiked mountains in many countries, and then brought slides back to wet our appetite, and make us youngsters (at the time) start dreaming of also climbing the “Big Ones”.

She was a mentor for many new and old hikers and climbers and we will miss her dearly. Hannie was a true legend in the Mountain Club and she will continue living on in our hearts.

*Condolences were received from other Sections of the MCSA as well as individuals who knew Hannie and who asked me to say a few words to her family and friends on their behalf. I will read it to you:*

**President of MCSA, Dave Jones (CT):** I have taken note with great sadness of the passing of a very loyal MCSA member. If the opportunity presents itself, it will be greatly appreciated if the appreciation of the MCSA for Hannie Low’s service to our Club can be passed on to all concerned. I did not have the opportunity to know her personally when she was in charge at Amajuba, but her reputation has most certainly endured in that Section and in the Club nationally.

**Chris de Bruyn (Rustenburg):** I got to know Hannie when we stayed in Ladysmith (1988 – 1990), and spent many hours with her hiking in the area as well as the Berg. Condolences to Mandy, Peter and Ronell.

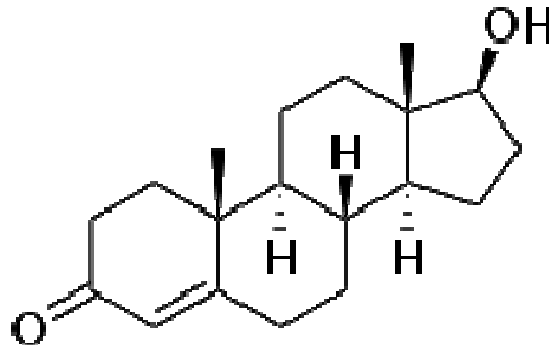
**Uli Deutschlander (Hottentots Holland Section):** I am very sad that Hannie had to leave us so early and tragically in her life. At Cencom meetings she tried her best, in a friendly way, to give her input to Mountain Club matters in the name of her small Section. I had the pleasure to hike with cheerful Hannie some miles in the mountains. Farewell Hannie!

**Ottie Nesor:** From the Magaliesberg Section also sadness on hearing of Hannie’s passing. Some members of our Section knew her well; I met her only once, but she made a big impression on me. She will be in your memories when you are in the mountains, as all our legends are. Please pass the Magaliesberg Section’s condolences on to friends and family.

**Chris Steenkamp (Hermanus):** Thea, dra asseblief aan familie van Hannie en die BKSA my medelye oor met die afsterwe van Hannie Low. Sy was in lewe reeds 'n legende. Ons sal nog baie lank aan haar dink met 'n glimlag.

**Ria Kotze :** Ek neem baie swaar afskeid van 'n goeie vriendin en mede stapper. Die wete dat Hannie verlos is van haar pyn en lyding maak my hartseer ietwat minder.

**Harry Loots (London):** Ek het Hannie hier raakgeloop toe ons op 'n Natal-afdeling uitstappie was (so in die laat sewentigs rond). Ek wou so amper dink dit was Giant's Castle se kant toe, maar dis te lank gelede om dit te kan sê met oortuiging! Sy was 'n lewendige mens, met 'n vriendelike lag en altyd gereed om saam draak te steek of grap te vang. Haar humorsin het sy voor op haar bors gedra die dag toe ek haar ontmoet het!! Pas terug van 'n skeinat onderwysers konferensie, het sy 'n t-shirt aangehad met die volgende prentjie ...



#### Die chemiese simbool vir Testosterone!!

So tydlangs mee het ek Hannie leer ken en besef dat die balletjie dinamiet meer van die goed in haar liggaam gehad het as baie van die mans wat saam met ons die berge ingevaar het. Toe sy later van Durban na Ladysmith toe getrek het, het ons meer gereeld saam die berge ingevaar, en het sy begin om saam met ons Newcastle groep uitstappies mee te maak. Ons het selfs ook 'n nuwe Toastmasters klub op die bene gebring in Ladysmith (saam met o.a. Colin en Henriette Gibson en die hulp van Doug Lyon en Declan Gush wat van Volksrust af gekom het).

Altyd gereed vir 'n nuwe avontuur, het sy my eendag gevra of ek haar nie wil touwys maak in rotsklim nie, en dit was juis op een van dié klimtogte, dat Thea haar die eerste keer raakgeloop het. Ons het die naweek op Platberg naby Harrismith geklim - ek en Hannie en Rob Campbell het saam geklim die dag. In 'n skeur so links van One-Man's Pass se kant. Ek het gelei, en Hannie het my gevolg. Toe sy mooi veilig langs my sit, volg Rob... Die volgende oomblik is daar 'n groot gil van onder af... en 'n swaar las aan die ander kant van die tou... "Rob!! you okay?"... so 'n paar sekondes later... "yes... I slipped and the harness caught my #\*%&\$\* balls!!!!" As Hannie nie die dag met die tou vasgemaak was nie, het sy sekerlik van die berg afgerol van die lag...

Altyd gereed om saam te lag en geen probleem ooit te groot om van weg te skram nie!

*I will conclude by reading Doug's message. I think Doug summed Hannie up very nicely:*

**Doug Lyon (Volksrust):** Hannie was like so many true mountaineers, an extremely enthusiastic person. I mourn her passing, but salute her for all she did not only for the Amajuba Section of the MCSA, but also for her fellow human beings. I shall miss things like being encouraged to go the last mile when I was really ready to give up on a tough hike, and strolling down the Little berg towards Base Camp, singing Jon Denvers "Country Road" at the top of our voices. Rest in Peace, Hannie.

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*Please take note of the information below, having this information could save your life in an emergency.*



# MCSA Search and Rescue Teams

**Gauteng**  
*Johannesburg/Pretoria*  
**Tel: 074 125 1385**  
**Tel: 074 163 3952**  
Convenor: 082 378 2032 - Sean Buchanan

Note the Gauteng team also covers the Free State, North West, Limpopo and Mpumalanga

**Western Cape**  
*Cape Town*  
**Tel: 021 937 0300**  
Convenor: 073 217 6351 - Rik de Dekker  
Convenor: 082 675 0901 - Roy White

For Mountain Security / crime related incidents in the Cape: Call 086 110 6417

**Hottentots Holland**  
*Somerset West*  
**Tel: 021 937 0300**  
Convenor: 072 904 6150 - Neal de Kock

**South Cape**  
*Plettenberg Bay/Knysna/George*  
Convenor: **082 339 1240** - Drew Scott  
Convenor: **082 323 4349** - Rogan Hindmarch  
Tel: 10177 (Metro)

**Kwazulu Natal**  
*Durban/Pietermaritzburg*  
**Tel: 0800 005 133**  
Convenor: 082 990 5876 - Gavin Raubenheimer

**Eastern Province**  
*Port Elizabeth*  
**Tel: 072 324 4985 (Vodacom)**  
**Tel: 073 755 2250 (MTN)**  
Tel: 10177 (Metro)  
Convenor: 072 142 0558 - Natalie van Loggerenberg

\*All phone numbers are the emergency numbers that can be contacted in case of a mountain rescue emergency. Primary numbers are in bold  
Last update: Feb 2011

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**MCSA NATIONAL MEET 2011**  
***Explore the Mountains of the Free State Basotho***  
**QWA-QWA DRAKENSBERG/MALUTI'S**

The FREE STATE Section invites members of all sections to join us for a National Meet (Mini-camp) in the Maluti/Drakensberg area of QwaQwa in the Eastern Free State. The venue is approximately 350 km from Bloemfontein, 320 from Johannesburg, 1000 km from PE and 1350 km from Cape Town.

This area, where the Maluti Mountain range meets the high Drakensberg, is characterized by deep valleys and gorges, prominent basalt cliffs and peaks, beautiful sandstone formations, waterfalls, crystal clear streams and very few inhabitants deep in the mountains. It has a Drakensberg-like character and the altitude varies between 1800 m and 3200 m ASL. The area is lesser-known to backpackers, but boasts impressive geographical features like the Kgotswane gorge, Namahadi valley and also the spectacular Sentinel/Amphitheatre area.

**DATES:** Arriving Sunday 10 April, until to Friday, 15 April, leaving on the morning of 16 April (the Easter Weekend is from 22 to 25 April).

**ACTIVITIES:**

- ▶ A welcoming function and dinner at the Basotho Cultural Village on the Sunday evening, (10 April).
- ▶ A self braai at the end of the camp (Friday evening, 15 April).
- ▶ Day walks from base camp through the valleys and gorges and to the Amphitheatre.
- ▶ Overnight hikes, from 2 to 5 days in duration through the valleys and gorges and to the top of the escarpment.
- ▶ Rock climbing possibilities on unclimbed faces, should leaders be available.

**BASE CAMP:** In the Sekoto valley, to the south of the Kgotswane Gorge. **Co-ordinates:** 28 38 50,3 S / 28 46 40,7 E. The base camp will be on an open area alongside a stream, with some low shrubs and only a few trees for shade. No facilities besides a field toilet and some firewood. Water from the stream. Only some of the hikes will start (or end) at the base camp and we will need some of the camp attendees' vehicles to assist with the transit of hikers. The last 4 km of road to base camp is untarred and rough, only suitable for vehicles with a high clearance.

**LIMITATION ON NUMBERS: 50 persons maximum**

**COST PER PERSON: R250.00.**

This covers the first night's function, meat for the braai at the end, camp fee, firewood, a camp guard and a map of the area. The rest of the camp will be self-catering.

**EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS:**

Camping at base camp in own tents. The entire camp and hikes will be self-catering and you must supply your own food, stove, fuel, pots and other cooking utensils. Clothing should be for four seasons. Hiking equipment should include good boots, effective rainwear, hat, water bottle, swimwear, medical kit, sunblock, daypack, mountain tent, hikers mattress, etc.

**MAPS:** A copied map of the whole area will be made available to all attendees.

**CELL PHONE RECEPTION:** NONE at base camp and in the valleys, some on the high lying areas and on the roads through QwaQwa.

**PAYMENT:** Preferably direct deposit into the Free State Section's bank account, or cheques payable to the Mountain Club, Free State Section with the application form, (see detail on application form).

**CLOSING DATE for APPLICATIONS: 4 March 2011**

**APPLICATION FORMS:** Available at all Sections of the Mountain Club and from the organiser at [dodendaal@mweb.co.za](mailto:dodendaal@mweb.co.za)

**FURTHER INFORMATION:** Detailed information on the camp will be sent out to all entrants in mid March, after the closing date. In the mean time, should you need more details, you can contact **Derek Odendaal** at [dodendaal@mweb.co.za](mailto:dodendaal@mweb.co.za) or **Sheila Addison** at [sheilaa@xsinet.co.za](mailto:sheilaa@xsinet.co.za)

## APPLICATION FORM

## MCSA NATIONAL MEET 2011

### "Explore the Mountains of the Free State Basotho"

**1. PERSONAL PARTICULARS:**

Name and surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Postal address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone / Cell phone No: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No: (    )

I am a **member** of the \_\_\_\_\_ **Section** / not a member of the MCSA.  
(delete where appropriate)Medical conditions:  
\_\_\_\_\_

I am taking my own medication for this condition: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. ACTIVITIES PREFERRED:**Day walks  2 or 3 day trips  4 or 5 day trip (up the escarpment) **3. PREFERRED DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY:**Easy  Moderate  Moderate to strenuous  Strenuous (all escarpment) **4. INDEMNITY**

I acknowledge that I will participate in all activities during the camp voluntarily and at own risk.

.....  
Signature of applicant.....  
Date**5. PAYMENT:**

Please return this form with your payment of **R270 before 4 March 2011** to the address below, or fax or e-mail it. Please **deposit** your payment into the following account: Bergklub van SA: Vrystaat Afdeling, ABSA Bank, Branch code 632 005, account No 470 312 432 and use "**Camp**" and **your surname as reference**.

➤ Please send **proof of payment** to fax no 086 620 1475 or e-mail to[sheilaa@xsinet.co.za](mailto:sheilaa@xsinet.co.za)**Mail address:** Mountain Club Camp, PO Box 12312, Brandhof, 9324

On the Lighter Side:

*Why boys need parents ( especially mothers).*









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<b>Programme 2011 Program</b>			
Date / Datum	Description / Beskrywing	Activity / Aktiwiteit	Contact / Kontak
09 April	Ncandu Forest	Hiking (2)	Len Stoop 078 598 1643
12 April	Social get together	Slides / Talks	Jandri Barnard 084 580 3501
10-15 April	Mini Camp, QwaQwa	Hiking (3)	Derek Odendaal at <a href="mailto:dodendaal@mweb.co.za">dodendaal@mweb.co.za</a> Sheila Addison at <a href="mailto:sheilaa@xsinet.co.za">sheilaa@xsinet.co.za</a>
22-25 April	Drakensberg, Injasuti, Mfadi	Hiking (3)	Ruan Adendorff 082 577 7555
13-15 May	Ntendeka State Forest, Ngoma	Hiking (3)	Johan De Villiers 072 712 7022
28 May	Leokop, Normandien	Hiking (2)	Ruan Adendorff 082 577 7555
16-19 June	Steylkranz	Hiking (3)	Thea Groenewegen 0343123703 / 083 378 7655
July	July Camp	Hiking (3)	Information will follow next month

\* Dates to be finalized. The programme is subject to change.

\* Datums moet nog bepaal word. Die program kan verander.

### Rating System

1. *Family weekend.* Children, prospective & older members. Easy, short hikes often-good facilities.
2. *Easy hike.* Footpaths present or otherwise flat open terrain.
3. *Average difficulty.* Path over varying terrain, often steep. Sometimes paths, route finding necessary.
4. *Difficult hike without footpath.* Might incl. bundu bashing, serious scrambling, kloofing or exposure.
5. *Technical climb.* Requires climbing gear (sometimes ice climbing gear).

## General Interest

*If anyone has anything of interest they would like to share in the news letter or wants me to put an article about anything in, then please contact me. It has to be relevant to hiking, mountaineering, camping or the outdoors. Ideally the article or request should reach me within the first 15 days of the month.*

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## Trading Post:

**For Sale: Nothing**

*Remember, you can sell anything here, not only hiking or camping related.*

**Wanted: Nothing**

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**If there is anyone not receiving the Juba-Jabber via e-mail and wants to receive it that way then please send me a mail at; [adriandip@telkomsa.net](mailto:adriandip@telkomsa.net) so I can add you to the mailing list.**