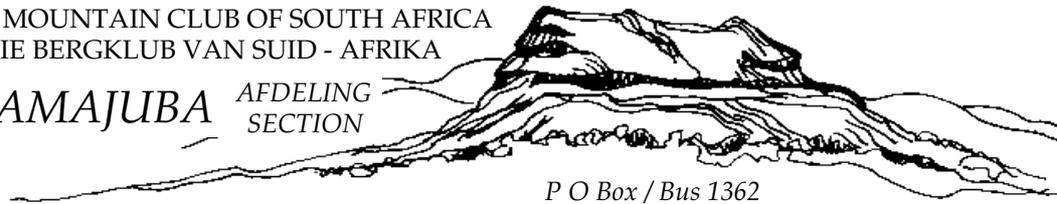


THE MOUNTAIN CLUB OF SOUTH AFRICA  
DIE BERGKLUB VAN SUID - AFRIKA

**AMAJUBA** AFDELING  
SECTION



P O Box / Bus 1362  
Newcastle 2940

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

## **JubaJabber - Monthly February 2013**

### **News items**

#### **Love and Woe.**

Have not heard of any illnesses 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 **2013** is as follows:

Chairperson: Hermann Kuhne - 0845600613.

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

Treasurer: Len Stoop – 078 598 1643.

Secretary: Christine de Villiers – 072 712 7022.

Social Convener: Thea Groenewegen – 0343123703 / 083 378 7655.

Climbing and Rescue: Ruan Adendorff – 082 577 7555.

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

Publicity:

#### **MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR 2013**

**Family membership is R260 per year**

**Single member R170 per year**

**Family pensioner R190 per year**

**Single pensioner R140 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 2013</b>

## Letter from our chairman



Dit is vir my 'n groot voereg om as voorsitter van Amajuba seksie te dien. Ek het n passie vir die Drakensberge al feitlik my hele lewe lank en het begin stap toe ek 14 jaar oud was. In 1984 sluit ek by die klub aan.

Ek het in 2003 weer baie ernstig begin stap in die Drakensberge. My twee seuns Hermann en Adriaan stap nou ook saam en het al 'n paar strawwe roetes saam met my gedoen.

My passion extends to the wonderful history of the Drakensberg, and its conservation, both in the present and the future. Above all I love taking people to the mountains so that they can enjoy and experience the greatness of it all. I will make it my mission to attract more people to Amajuba section; we so blessed for we are surrounded with mountains and the Drakensberg are not far away. There are so many hiking/climbing routes waiting for us.

I hope that in 2013 will be a great year for the club, for we are 30 years old this year. A great achievement! So I invite everyone to join me to explore the mountains and make this a fun and rewarding year!

Thanks for the committee for helping supporting me in our new club year

**Hermann Kühne**

## Recent outings by Amajuba Section Members.

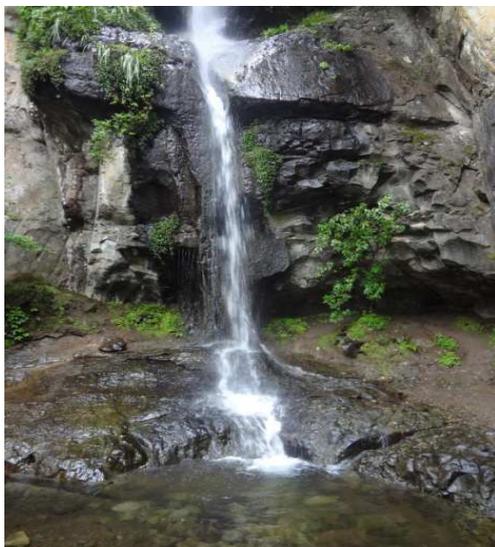


Early Saturday morning, it's rainy. We are on our way to the base of Sterkhorn. The hike up to the contour path is picturesque. You start through a lush forest, full of shadows and the chirping of birds. Just before exiting the forest we cross a river with wood bridge, water is flowing strong after the recent rains. Then it's the path that goes up to the Sphinx, we stopped at Crystal falls just before reaching the Sphinx.



We hiked on and rested on top of the Sphinx, a lot of mist around so we couldn't see the high peaks. We took the trail leading up to Breakfast Stream with Verkykerskop on the left. We reached Breakfast Stream and had a rest. From here it's a straight forward trail to the contour path. If it was a clear day the views would have been awesome, especially for Gustav, for it's his first time in this area. We turned left at the contour path and after about 100m there is a very nice next to a river with lots of shade from Ouhout trees. There we had lunch and relaxed, still it drizzled on and off.

After our rest we headed up the Sterkhorn route to look for camp site at the base of it. Found a place and set up camp. The rain came again and we spend most of the time in our tents.



Crystal Falls



Above the Sphinx



Campsite

After a long night we woke up with no views, thick mist was twirling around us. After breakfast we took the necessary gear and headed for the hill ahead. Halfway up the ridge we came out the mist and were greeted by the sun.



Above the clouds and yet far from the goal, the route up Sterkhorn is fairly doable. Here and there you must watch your step and keep your eyes on the path.

About 100m below the summit we come across water, flowing fresh out of the earth. We got our breath back and headed up the last grass gully. On the right of the gully there is a peak where most people turn around. The views are magnificent (on a clear day)

We took the last section, did some scrambling and were on top. For Gustav it was a great experience above the clouds. Misty clouds were blowing from Keith Bush camp in a swirly motion and now and then we got a glimpse of Grays pass, Vulture retreat and to the south to Injisuthi way.

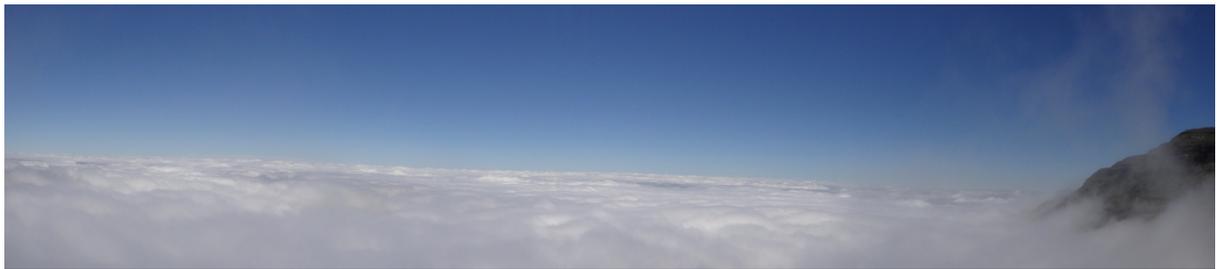
The South summit is a bit higher I noticed, to climb that one is a few pitches with rope work. We spent a long time up there, the great feeling being on a peak with all the exposure around you.



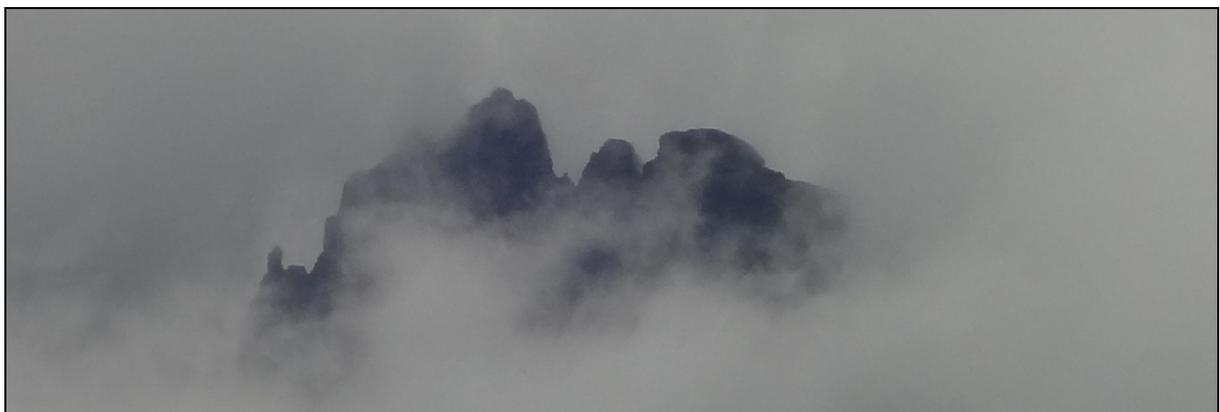
**Cathkin Peak**



**Last scramble to the summit**



Reluctantly we started going down, stopping for photos, taking it all in. On our way down we saw an American couple going up. At last back at our campsite we relaxed, ate and break tents down. It is a little way down to the contour path then at Blindman's corner we turn right for the last 5.5km back to the car. It was still cloudy, but now and then it opened up so we could see Cathkin Peak and Gatberg.



**Sterkhorn coming out of hiding**

We arrived late; they had to unlock the gate for us. Decided to take our time getting home, so took a slow drive to the Drakensberg Sun. We had a beer on the stoep, talked about the hike and relaxed. We used the weekend to the fullest, left Drakensberg Sun at 19h00 and drove back to our lives in Newcastle.

**Herman Kühne**

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## OF INTEREST

### **Cambalala Hut Booking Procedure**

Hi All

Please note the email attached from Alison below. It provides a link to the Cambalala hut booking calendar that you may want to save for future reference.

If you want to save it:

- 1) Click on the link below...it will open a web page
- 2) In your web browser click on "Favorites" and follow instructions for saving a webpage to the favorites list
- 3) When visiting this page in future by selecting it from the favorites list, you may need to refresh the page to get the latest info.

Regards  
JamesV

**From:** [Alison Misselhorn](#)

**Subject:** Calendar on website

Dear valued guests of Cambalala!

For those of you who are not aware - and a reminder to those that are! - The bookings calendar for Cambalala is available to view on the KZN MCSA website. So, for those considering a trip to the hut it is fairly easy to see which dates are available and then drop me a mail. This is the calendar link!

<http://kzn.mcsa.org.za/Resources/cambalala-hut>

Best,

Alison

#### **Maps**

**It is essential that every party venturing into the depths of the Drakensberg is equipped, inter alia, with a compass, the relevant map and the ability to use them competently.**

Slingsby's series of six superb 1:50 000 maps, back-to-back on three sheets, has been the mainstay of 'Berg climbers and hikers for over two decades. These cheap and durable maps are still widely used, but are no longer in print. A new series of six maps has been produced under the auspices of the KwaZulu-Natal Nature Conservation Service (**KZN-NCS**). The maps are available at all KZN-NCS offices as well as at most hiking and climbing shops in Natal. They are available in identical versions of two differing qualities. The paper version costs about R45. It disintegrates at the folds after about five trips and converts spontaneously to a nutritionless porridge on contact with water...

**Note** that the magnetic declination in the Drakensberg is about **20** degrees west of true north.

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## On the Lighter Side:

### 10-year-old stress..... very cute!



A father asked his 10-year old son if he knew about the birds and the bees.

"I don't want to know," the child said, bursting into tears. "Promise me you won't tell me."

Confused, the father asked what was wrong.

The boy sobbed, "When I was six, I got the 'There's no Easter Bunny' speech.

At seven, I got the 'There's no Tooth Fairy' speech.

When I was eight, you hit me with the 'There's no Santa' speech.

**If you're going to tell me that grown-ups don't really get laid, I'll have nothing left to live for."**

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## Program for 2013

Date	What/Where	Contact person	Contact number	Details
02/03 Maart	Vulintaba	Len Stoop	078 598 1643	Hike (2)
21/24 Maart	Cathedral Peak	Hermann Kuhne	0845600613	Escarpment Hike (3)
13 April	Goewermentskop	Johan De Villiers	072 712 7022	Dagstap (2)
26/28 April	Moorefield tot Mont Pelaan	Ruan Adendorf	082 577 7555	Oornag Stap (3)
18/19 May	Bannerman Hut	Hermann Kuhne	0845600613	Escarpment Hike (3)
25 May	Majuba	Len Stoop	078 598 1643	Day Hike (2)

*\* 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: MSR Dragonfly Multi Fuel Stove + MSR 975 ml Fuel Bottle:

**R 1500.00 for both** (this stove sells for R2120 without the fuel bottle the bottle by itself sells for ± R220.00)

Both are brand new and have never been used, the bottle has not even had fuel in it. Reason for selling; was given this stove as a gift but already own one.



**Contact: Adrian Dippenaar 082 337 2970 or [adriandip@telkomsa.net](mailto:adriandip@telkomsa.net)**

The Dragonfly liquid-fuel camp stove takes precision-simmering performance and puts it in a chassis that's built to handle a variety of fuels and the frequent use dished-out by global vagabonds. Tough and stable, it excels in institutional and guide service settings. Its dual-valve design gives you the flame control you need for evenly heating large pots (up to 9" maximum diameter) of crowd-pleasing gruel. Of course, when the need arises to melt snow and brew-up fast, the DragonFly goes from zero to searing at the twist of a knob.

**Package includes:** Fuel pump, windscreen, heat reflector, small-parts kit, instructions, and stuff sack.

- **Unrivaled Flame Control:** We pioneered the dual-valve design of the Dragonfly stove, enabling it to deliver precision simmer-to-boil control with a simple twist of the flame adjuster.
- **Extra Wide Pot Supports:** Three wide pot supports hold larger (up to 9" maximum diameter) MSR pots or fry pans for group cooking.
- **Multi-Fuel:** Burns white gas, kerosene, unleaded auto fuel, diesel, and jet fuel.
- **Compact:** Folds to 1/3 of its working size and fits in a 2-liter MSR pot for easy storage.
- **Efficient:** The suspended burner cup enables the stove to burn hot and strong while reducing heat lost to the ground.
- **Field Maintainable:** Shaker Jet technology and smart engineering allows complete cleaning and maintenance in the field.



**Wanted:??????????????**

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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.**

