

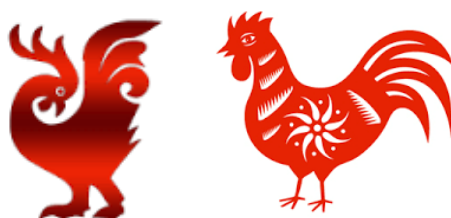
Cape Union Mart Hiking Club Newsletter

January 2017



Website: www.cumhike.co

'In 2017 the Chinese Year of the Fire Rooster starts on January 28, 2017 and lasts until 15 February, 2018. We are getting out of a pretty confusing period of time and entering a rational and constructive period.' I wonder if anyone has told Donald Trump that and wouldn't it be marvellous if South Africa were going into such a year – but perhaps we are.



The year has started off on a very fiery note and our thoughts go out to all those who have been negatively affected. On a selfish note, let's hope that our favourite hiking areas will still be accessible and that the flora and fauna recover quickly.

Of course, when some of us see a Red Rooster we think of Mick Jagger, but that's probably only those of a certain age!

New members

Welcome to our newest Cumhikers – hope you have many happy years of hiking with the club:

Charles Foster, Darren Fouche, Chantel Hart, Marco and Riza Fouche, Linique van Zyl, Roshaan Gaidien, Gloudine van Niekerk, Carol Garland, Naomi and Clifford Williams, Renee Dente, Desiree de Kock, Paul and Linda Niemantinga.

To qualify for your 10% discount, don't forget to take your membership card with you when you shop at Cape Union Mart, our very generous sponsors.



Cape Union Mart R100 voucher winners

No draw this month, but we'll do an extra draw in February.

Annual General Meeting

We previously advised that the AGM would be held on Wednesday 25 January but, for various reasons, we have changed the date to **Wednesday 15 February**. It will take place at Marsh Memorial Homes, Rondebosch starting at 19:00 prompt. We will send out another notice nearer the time giving directions, asking for RSVPs and sending the Agenda, but please diarise the date in the meantime.

Our Constitution requires us to give a month's written notice, so this is it! The Cumhike Committee will be changing quite a bit, so we will need you to ratify the changes and new members.

We haven't yet found a guest speaker, so if you have any ideas, please let us know. The club will provide (some) drinks and snacks.

Many happy returns

Thirty-four January birthdays – must be a record – could we all have been the product of the Easter Bunny? Congratulations to you all – hope you had/are going to have a super day. It's very apt that some are goats (perfect for hiking) and the others water carriers (very much needed at the moment).



1	Joana Winterbach
2	Amelia Melck
	Andrzej Tromczynski
	Riza Fouche
4	David Menzie
5	Hugh Ferguson
7	Chelsea Lee Hartle
10	Claudia Wallin
11	Ronel van Dijk
	Charles Peck
12	Charles Ford
	Jeanine Fouche
14	Colleen Bailey
	Beth Doe MacGregor
15	Trevor Huber
	Zane Cooper
16	Natasha Bosman
	Lucinda Jooste



17	Veronika Frey
18	Laura Knight
19	Pietie Coetzee
	Akhona Mapundu
	Chris Nganga
20	Paul Niemantinga
	Maritjie Odendaal
21	Wanjiru Ghitiomi
	Adele Groenewald
	Gail Smuts
23	Xolani Simelane
25	Ria Loots
26	Michelle Ziervogel
28	Alison McKie
31	Heidri van der Vyfer
	Xolisile Simelane

Hike programme

In the knowledge that your main resolution is to do more hiking this year (it is, isn't it?), please have a look at the programme – both for day and weekend hikes – and put your name down immediately! The hike leaders are all well rested and raring to go and can guarantee that you will enjoy your hike.

Do read the description of the hike and take note of the grading and the duration of the hike. As a reminder of how the grading works, here are the grades and an explanation of each (also on our website www.cumhike.co.za):

*The **number** in the grade represents how tough the hike is physically. The actual duration of the hike is not considered here, as the duration of the hike is always indicated separately for every hike.*

- 1: An easy stroll
- 2: Moderate
- 3: Strenuous exercise
- 4: Only for the very fit

*The **letter** represents how exposed hikers are to heights during the hike.*

- A: No exposure to heights
- B: Mild exposure to heights
- C: Moderate exposure to heights
- D: Very exposed to heights

You must always consider both the physical difficulty as well as the exposure to heights, as a particular hike may be an easy stroll, yet may contain a challenging piece of scrambling. Similarly a hike which runs on a flat surface, may be on a really rugged surface.

Please note that the Cumhike grading system is intended as a reference only and the club cannot guarantee 100% accuracy.

2017 subs

You will all have received your 2017 subscription notices from Ella and noticed that the subs have not increased – they have remained the same for the past three years. Thanks to all of you who have already paid. PLEASE ensure that your name appears on any deposit you make and what it's for – it takes ages to reconcile payments which do not have any information.

Membership 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017

Annual renewal fees:	Single or main member (cash payments)	R140
	Additional family members (cash payments)	R75
	Single or main member (EFT payments)	R130
	Additional family members (EFT payments)	R70
	Scholars under 18 years are free	

The annual subscription fee includes the R10 HOSA fee (Hiking Organization of South Africa).

As always, please try to pay by EFT but, if you don't, ensure that you allow extra for cash payments. In fact, the extra R10/R5 as shown above does not cover the bank charges so we may have to look at increasing the subs for cash payments. We do not accept cheques as we have to pay a R25 handling fee on them.

The banking details are on the subscription notice. Those members who do not renew their membership by the end of February will be assumed to have resigned from the Club.