



Affiliated to
Birdlife
South Africa



WITWATERSRAND BIRD CLUB
PROGRAMME 03/2023
FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN BRIEF

Date	Activity	Leader	Venue
September 2023			
10	Sunday outing	Ernst Retief	Roodeplaat Dam Nature Reserve
13	Wednesday outing	Werner van Goethem	Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve
14-23	Nine-day trip	Etienne Marais	Southern Mozambique
16	Saturday Atlas Day	Werner van Goethem	Under-serviced pentads in Greater Gauteng
19	Tuesday evening meeting	Anthony Paton	Country Life Retirement Village, Brentwood Park
25	Public Holiday Monday outing	Lance Robinson	Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve
October 2023			
8	Sunday outing	Chris Hines	Wilge River Valley & surrounds
10	Tuesday outing	Andy Featherstone	Walter Sisulu Botanical Gardens
11	West Rand Wednesday evening meeting	Allan Weideman	Discovery Bowls Club, Florida
14	Saturday course	Linda De Luca & Chris Hines	Random Harvest Nursery
17	East Rand Tuesday evening meeting	John Gilcrest	Country Life Retirement Village, Brentwood Park
19	Thursday evening meeting	Arno Elmer	Linden Bowling Club
21	Saturday outing	Awie Coetzee	Moreleta Kloof Nature Reserve
22	Sunday Atlas Day	Werner van Goethem	Under-serviced pentads in Greater Gauteng
November 2023			
Mix and Match Limpopo Adventure:			
28-30 October	2 Nights add on	David Letsoalo	Magoebaskloof
30 October – 3 November	4 Nights main outing	Andy Featherstone	Punda Maria, Kruger National Park
3 - 5	2 Nights add on	Sampson Mulaudzi	Soutpansberg
8	West Rand Wednesday evening meeting	Carol Lippert	Discovery Bowls Club, Florida
18	Saturday Atlas Day	Werner van Goethem	Under-serviced pentads in Greater Gauteng
19	Sunday outing	Helen Badenhorst	Kgaswane Nature Reserve & Rockwall Dam
21	East Rand Tuesday evening meeting	Members Show and Tell	Country Life Retirement Village, Brentwood Park
22	Wednesday outing	Werner van Goethem	Bronkhorstspuit
23	Thursday evening meeting	Lesley Cornish	Linden Bowling Club
25	Saturday outing	Cliff Wright	Taaibos River cruise
December 2023			
1 - 3	Weekend outing	Lucky Ngwenya	Birding Big Day, Wakkerstroom
6	Wednesday outing	Andy Featherstone	Northcliff Ridge Ecopark
6	West Rand Wednesday evening meeting	Members Show and Tell	Discovery Bowls Club, Florida
9	Saturday Year-end braai	WBC Committee	President Ridge Bird Sanctuary
10	Sunday Atlas Day	Werner van Goethem	Under-serviced pentads in Greater Gauteng
January 2024			
10	Wednesday outing	Andy Featherstone	Northern Farm

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Date	Activity	Leader	Venue	
14	Sunday outing	TBC	Zaagkuilsdrift Road	
13	Saturday Atlas Day	Werner van Goethem	Under-serviced pentads in Greater Gauteng	
16	East Rand Tuesday evening meeting	TBC	Country Life Retirement Village, Brentwood Park	
17	East Rand CWAC	Awie Coetzee	Rolfes & Park Haven Pans	
20-21	CWAC weekend	Barbi Forsyth	Nylsvley Nature Reserve, Limpopo	
20	East Rand CWAC	Werner van Goethem	Korsman, Sand & Bullfrog Pans	
21	East Rand CWAC	Werner van Goethem	Elandsvlei & Varkfontein Pans	
25	Thursday evening meeting	Rowan Jordaan	Linden Bowling Club	
26-28	Weekend Outing	Chris Hines & Lance Robinson	Wagondrift Lodge, Cullinan	
26-28	Nylsvley Birding Bash	Friends of Nylsvley	Nylsvley Nature Reserve, Limpopo	
27	East Rand CAR count	Werner van Goethem	Rayton	
27	West Rand CAR count	Koos van Dijk	Lenasia and Carletonville	
28	East Rand CWAC	Awie Coetzee	Marievale, Blesbokspruit	
28	Honorary Rangers CWAC	Lesley Cornish	Klipvoor Dam, Borakalalo NP	



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WITWATERSRAND BIRD CLUB PROGRAMME 03/2023

EVENING / AFTERNOON MEETINGS		
Club Meetings and Courses will be held at Linden Bowling Club unless otherwise stated		
Thursday 21 September	Anthony Paton	Inside the Atlas
<p>This meeting will be an opportunity for main and West Rand club members to meet with our members on the East Rand. The venue is excellent, and the East Rand members always provide a great selection of snacks.</p> <p>The Second Southern African Bird Atlas Project SABAP2 is a project of the University of Cape Town (UCT) that uses volunteers ("citizen scientists") to collect data on the distribution of bird species in Southern Africa (RSA, Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Namibia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique).</p> <p>Anthony Paton has contributed over 2,500 "cards" (lists) to this project and in this lecture will explain the SABAP2 full protocol description, the practical execution of this protocol in the field (from the use of compasses, clocks, maps, and pen and paper through to BirdLasser etc.) and the assembly of this material at the Animal Demographic Unit of the University of Cape Town and its uses for the compilation of distribution maps with applications for birding information and conservation, and by extension the importance of atlasing.</p> <p>His own personal contribution to this project which forms a giant drawing of a bird and is assembled in a binary pyramid, and some of the experiences he has had in assembling this and over 15 000 photographs which are selected, cropped, colour corrected, and labeled by species, location, and date which would comprise the largest individual contribution to BirdMap if anyone had the time to upload this data.</p>		
Wednesday 11 October	Allan Weideman	The Weideman's Trip to Uganda
<p>Allan will be giving a presentation on his trip to Uganda and its amazing animals and birdlife. This is a West Rand meeting, and it will be held at the Discovery Bowls Club in Florida.</p>		
Tuesday 17 October	John Gilcrest	Birds of Australia
<p>John will be giving a presentation on the Birds of Australia. This is an East Rand meeting, and it will be held at the Country Life Retirement Village, Brentwood Park.</p>		
Thursday 19 October	Arno Ellmer	Birds of Columbia
<p>A photographic journey through a country with the world's most diverse bird species. Arno will showcase the immense, spectacular, and colourful variety of birds encountered in Columbia.</p> <p>Arno's interest in birding started young and he later qualified as a ringer with SAFRING in 2006. Around the same time, he became interested in photography, a passion that has now taken him to Botswana, Namibia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Brazil, and most recently Colombia. Nothing makes him happier than spending extended periods in nature, capturing birds and bird behaviour on camera. Having spent his working life as a Consulting Engineer, he now spends his retirement photographing and overlanding to remote areas in Southern Africa and elsewhere.</p>		
Wednesday 8 November	Carol Lippert	Annual Quiz Evening
<p>Carol will be hosting her popular annual quiz evening. This is a West Rand meeting, and it will be held at the Discovery Bowls Club in Florida.</p>		
Tuesday 21 November	The East Rand Members	Members Show and Tell
<p>The East Rand members will be holding their annual Show and Tell evening. This is an East Rand meeting, and it will be held at the Country Life Retirement Village, Brentwood Park.</p>		



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Thursday 23 November	Lesley Cornish	Birding Uganda
<p>Lesley Cornish has a PhD and has worked as a physical metallurgist for the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, University of the Witwatersrand, and Mintek. As well as being a workaholic, she is also a keen birder and has birded on every continent, as well as various islands, and likes taking wildlife photographs (when they come out OK). When not working, she enjoys travelling to places without cell phone coverage (especially if there are lots of birds) and has been an active member of the Northwest Parks and Tourism Board Honorary Officer Association for over 20 years, doing voluntary work at Pilanesberg and Borakalalo. She has been a member of WBC since 1990 and has been birding ever since she can remember.</p> <p>This talk is about two trips to Uganda in 2014 and 2019 with Penny Abbot, who helped with the presentation. The first trip was more conventional, and the second trip visited more out-of-the-way places, as well as repeating some of the forests.</p>		
Wednesday 6 December	The West Rand Members	Members Show and Tell
<p>The West Rand members will be holding their annual Show and Tell evening. This is a West Rand meeting, and it will be held at the Discovery Bowls Club in Florida.</p>		
Tuesday 16 January 2024	TBC	TBC
<p>The speaker and topic are still to be confirmed. This is an East Rand meeting, and it will be held at the Country Life Retirement Village, Brentwood Park.</p>		
Thursday 25 January 2024	Rowan Jordaan	Marion Island, a Sub-Antarctic Paradise
<p>Marion Island is a South African-owned island approximately 2000km south of Cape Town. A small team spends 14 months on this sub-Antarctic island with various personnel responsible for managing the base, conducting weather surveys, and researching its flora and fauna. The most iconic species studied include elephant seals, fur seals, various albatross and penguin species, and killer whales. Some of this research has been conducted for more than three decades, including that carried out by the Marion Island Marine Mammal Programme (MIMMP) which focuses on researching the four marine mammals of Marion Island. Rowan Jordaan will with give an overview of a year spent on the island, it's 'feathered' and 'fluffy' inhabitants, and the MIMMP fieldwork that goes into researching the marine mammals. This will include the challenges that the 'sealers' go through on a day-to-day basis associated with working closely with large, dangerous animals and in tough, extreme weather conditions.</p>		

DAY / WEEKEND OUTINGS AND COURSES

Target Bird Challenge

Target birds are not necessarily the most elusive, prettiest, or rarest birds to be found. We encourage you to read up beforehand and get to grips with our nominated target birds; share your newly acquired knowledge with your fellow members and in this way, we all learn something new. Please note that the overall objective is to learn more and to have fun, therefore no prizes will be awarded for spotting the target bird on the day.

10 SEPTEMBER / SUNDAY OUTING ROODEPLAAT DAM NATURE RESERVE

Roodeplaat Dam Nature Reserve lies on the southern shore of the Roodeplaat Dam and has two hides overlooking the water. The reserve is accessed by a network of roads and is generally comprised of acacia woodland with reed beds along the shore of the dam. The bushveld areas are good places to look for Chinspot Batis, Crimson-breasted Shrike, Burnt-necked Eremomela and Long-billed Crombec amongst others. The picnic site overlooks the dam and is ideal for looking for the various water birds present.

Route: Travelling north on the N1, take off-ramp No152 in Pretoria through the toll gates and turn right onto Sefako Makgatho Drive (R513). Continue east on the R513 for approximately 6km and turn left on the Kameelfontein road. After 3,6km turn left towards the reserve entrance.

Book: witsbc234@gmail.com

GPS: S25° 38' 59.7" E28° 21' 48.4"

Meet: 06h45 at the entrance to start at 07h00

Cost: There is an entrance fee payable

Leader: Ernst Retief (082 325 6608)

SABAP2: 2535_2820

Target Bird: Burnt-necked Eremomela

13 SEPTEMBER / WEDNESDAY OUTING SUIKERBOSRAND NATURE RESERVE

The Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve is a well-known site where both the grey and black colour forms of the Mountain Wheatear occur. Red-throated Wryneck can often be found around the visitor's centre and the mixed woodland on the south side of the reserve holds populations of African Red-eyed Bulbul, Kalahari Scrub Robin and White-backed Mousebird. Early Spring will also be a time to test your knowledge of LBJs as many species of cisticola, lark and pipit occur and will be warming up their vocal cords.

Route: To Suikerbosrand. Take the N3 south towards Heidelberg and Durban and then the R550 (signposted Suikerbosrand) Nigel/Lenasia off-ramp. Turn right onto the R550 towards Lenasia. Follow for 6.6km. Turn left at the Suikerbosrand signboard and travel to the main entrance. Approx. 1 hour from Randburg.

Book on either: witsbc234@gmail.com

GPS: S 26°27'17" E 28°13'22" (Suikerbosrand NR)

Meet: 08h00 at the Diepkloof picnic & parking area, past the entrance gate.

Cost: There is an entrance fee payable.

Leader: Werner van Goethem (082 462 7108)

SABAP2: Pentad 2625_2810 +

14 - 23 SEPTEMBER / NINE DAY OUTING SAN SEBASTIÁN PENINSULA, SOUTHERN MOZAMBIQUE

The Sanctuary on the San Sebastián Peninsula (Southern Mozambique) has recently become one of the most exciting birding destinations in the region. This short trip offers the opportunity to bird this area for a full three days under the guidance of an expert who knows the area intimately. This trip also includes birding in the Panda area (Olive-headed Weaver) and Unguane woodlands (Green Tinkerbird).

Book: witsbc234@gmail.com

Cost: R23,000 pp sharing, R16,500 pp sharing self-drive, R 1,450 pp single supplement

Leader: Etienne Marais

**16 SEPTEMBER / SATURDAY ATLASING DAY
PENTADS WITHIN THE SOUTHEAST OR SOUTHWEST QUADRANTS**

Atlasing days are held once a month to atlas the pentads falling within the Greater Gauteng area. If you would like to learn more or take part, please contact: Werner van Goethem on 082-462-7108. You don't have to be an expert to join in, you can travel with an experienced atlaser and learn how to atlas.

Coordinator: Werner van Goethem (082 462 7108)

SABAP2: Pentads to be allocated

**25 SEPTEMBER / PUBLIC HOLIDAY MONDAY OUTING
KLIPRIVIERSBERG NATURE RESERVE**

The largest nature reserve (680 ha) within the Johannesburg Metropolitan area, the reserve is bisected by the Blouboospruit which runs through a valley. Ashy Tit, Common Scimitarbill, Brown-backed Honeybird, Orange River Francolin, Long-billed Pipit and White-fronted Bee-eater are all possible species to be encountered. A variety of game has been introduced.

Route: We will be starting out at the Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve entrance (alongside the Recreation Centre). From the M1 South, follow the Southgate indicators and take the R82 toward Vereeniging (the M1 becomes R27 and at Kibler Park sign becomes R82). At Kibler Park sign robot, turn left into Gordon Road. At the second road turn left into Pierpoint Drive and follow the road to Peggy-Vera Road. Turn left on Peggy-Vera, pass the Klipriviersberg Recreation Centre, the entrance to the KNR is the next right (thatched entrance).

Book: witsbc234@gmail.com

GPS: 27°50'40.7"E 26°05'13.8"S

Meet: 06h45 for 07h00 in the parking area

Leader: Lance Robinson (082 927 9785)

SABAP2: Pentad 2615_2800

Target Bird: Brown-backed Honeybird

**8 OCTOBER / SUNDAY OUTING
WILGE RIVER VALLEY AND SURROUNDS**

This scenic drive traverses some of the most diverse birding habitats in the region, including prime Highveld grassland, only a stone's throw away from an impressive gorge cloaked with moist woodland. The road descends into Trichardspoor with its spectacular red cliffs towering above forest-like riverine woodland. The kloof has a distinct subtropical flavour, which is reinforced by the presence of African Goshawk, Spectacled Weaver, and Ashy Flycatcher. **This outing will be limited to 5 Vehicles.**

Route: From the N1/N4 junction, travel R50km east towards Bronkhorstspuit and take the R25 offramp. Turn left (north) towards Groblersdal. After 25km, turn right toward Zusterstroom (also signposted Amanzintaba).

Book: witsbc234@gmail.com

GPS: S25°38'42.3", E28°53'16.9"

Meet: 07h00 at the Zusterstroom / Amanzintaba turn off from the R25.

Leader: Chris Hines (073 332 7578)

SABAP2: Various

Target Bird: Spectacled Weaver

**10 OCTOBER / TUESDAY OUTING
WALTER SISULU BOTANICAL GARDENS**

We have all probably visited the botanical garden to stroll amongst the magnificent gardens, or to watch the resident Verreaux's Eagles soaring overhead. The garden offers many habitats from cliff face and grassland to water, woodland and bushveld, attracting a diverse range of birds. This will be an opportunity for members to enjoy a leisurely walk around the gardens and be helped in identifying some of the birds that frequent the gardens. Spring is an excellent time to see and hear the migrant Red-chested, Diederik and Black Cuckoos. Bring chairs or a blanket and a picnic lunch to enjoy on the garden lawns after our walk.

Route: Travel towards Tarlton/Krugersdorp along the R47 (Hendrik Potgieter Road). Turn left into Doreen Road (approx. a 10-minute drive from the Hendrik Potgieter/Christiaan de Wet intersection), turn right into Malcolm Road and carry on straight until the road curves. The gate to the garden is on the left.

Book: witsbc234@gmail.com

GPS: S26°05'13.5", E27°50'42.2"

Meet: 08h00 at the entrance to start at 07h00

Cost:	There is an entrance fee payable
Leader:	Andy Featherstone (083 259 0231)
SABAP2:	Pentad 2605_2750
Target Bird:	Black Cuckoo

14 OCTOBER / SATURDAY COURSE BIODIVERSITY GARDENING

Linda De Luca is the owner of Random Harvest Indigenous Nursery and has dedicated herself to the growing of indigenous plants for the betterment of plants, biodiversity and the wildlife that live in and among the indigenous plants. The course will be in the form of a talk and discussion with Chris Hines on Biodiversity gardening and creating habitat to encourage birds to visit the garden. After the talk participants will be taken on a guided bird walk around the garden with Jeffrey and given a copy of Linda's new full colour Biodiversity booklet that she has written and a pamphlet on gardening for birds. Tea and scones are included and will be served in the gardens.

Route: From the N1 take Beyers Naude off-ramp and travel north along Beyers Naude Drive for 9.4km. Signpost for Random Harvest: turn right into Valley Road for 950m and then left into Lake View Drive for 2km. Random Harvest will be on your right.

Book: witsbc234@gmail.com

Venue: Random Harvest Indigenous Nursery

GPS: S26° 01' 48" E27° 53' 40"

Time: 08h45 for 09h00.

Cost: R350

Facilitator: Linda De Luca & Chris Hines

21 OCTOBER / SATURDAY OUTING MORELETA KLOOF NATURE RESERVE

This is a great destination just a few minutes from the highway. There are several habitats to be found including wetlands, open grassland, rocky ridges, broadleaved woodland, acacia woodland and even tall riverine forest around the Rademeyer Spruit. Specials include Lesser Honeyguide and Brown-backed Honeybird, with the occasional dash past of either an Ovambo or Little Sparrowhawk. This is a small reserve, and very suitable for a family outing.

Route: From the N1, take the Rigel Avenue offramp and travel east on Delmas Road. Turn left into Solomon Mahlangu Drive (Hans Strijdom Avenue) at the second intersection. Turn right into Rubenstein and travel until you get to Helios Street. Turn left in Helios Street. Parking is in Helios Street at the entrance to Rademeyer's Restaurant.

Book: witsbc234@gmail.com

GPS: S 25°49'1.72" E 28°17'27.61"

Meet: 07h00 in the car park

Leader: Awie Coetzee (083 677 7097)

SABAP2: 2545_2815

Target Bird: Cape Grassbird

22 OCTOBER / SUNDAY ATLASING DAY PENTADS WITHIN THE SOUTHEAST OR SOUTHWEST QUADRANTS

Atlasing days are held once a month to atlas the pentads falling within the Greater Gauteng area. If you would like to learn more or take part, please contact: Werner van Goethem on 082-462-7108. You don't have to be an expert to join in, you can travel with an experienced atlaser and learn how to atlas.

Coordinator: Werner van Goethem (082 462 7108)

SABAP2: Pentads to be allocated

28 OCTOBER – 5 NOVEMBER / WEDNESDAY OUTING (SEVEN NIGHTS TOTAL) MIX AND MATCH LIMPOPO ADVENTURE

You have the option to customize your trip by choosing to book the entire week or any of the three segments. The primary part of the trip includes a three-night stay at Punda Maria in Kruger National Park, with the added option of two nights in Magoebaskloof before Punda Maria and two nights in Soutpansberg after. You can choose from camping, caravanning, or self-catering accommodation.

Optional pre-tour add-on - 28-30 October (Two nights)

On Saturday morning we head North to Haenertsburg, and there we will spend Saturday afternoon, Sunday, and Monday morning birding in the company of the legendary local guide David Letsoalo. Places we will visit will include Woodbush

Drive, Tzaneen, and the Mamabolo Grasslands. Potential birds to be seen Cape Parrot, Rufous-chested Sparrowhawk, Black-fronted Bush-shrike, Mountain Wagtail, Chorister Robin-chat, Green Twinspot, White-starred Robin, Orange Ground Thrush, Barrett's Warbler, Lemon Dove, Buff-spotted Flufftail and many more woodland species resident in the area.

Route: From Johannesburg head North on the N1 to Polokwane. Stay on the N1 around the city and take the R71 towards Tzaneen. Continue for approximately 50kms to Haenertsburg. Directions to accommodation will be issued nearer the time.

Book: witsbc234@gmail.com

GPS: S 23°56'27.1" E 29°56'32.2"

Meet: Meet 14h00 venue to be confirmed

Cost: R950 per person guiding fee plus:
Self-catering accommodation: R1,200 per person
Single supplement (limited availability): R500
Camping at Sanfern Downs cost per person is R195

Leader: David Letsoalo

SABAP2: 2350_2955+

Target Bird: Black-fronted Bush-shrike

Main tour – 30 October to 3 November (Four nights)

Travel from Louis Trichardt on Monday early afternoon or from Johannesburg on Monday morning. We will spend three nights at Punda Maria camp in Kruger National Park exploring the campgrounds and surrounds with forays North to Pufuri, Crooks' Corner and Klopfontein and a night drive to search for night birds and animals. Potential birds to be seen Dickinson's Kestrel, Crested Guineafowl, Meves's Starling, Arnot's Chat, Pennant-winged Nightjar, Böhm's & Mottled Spinetails, Broad-billed & Racket-tailed Rollers, Lemon-breasted Canary, Black-throated Wattle-eye and many more species resident or migrant to the area.

Route: From Johannesburg travel North on the N1 to Makhado/Louis Trichardt. At the Makhado Crossing Mall turn right onto the R524 towards Thohoyandou. Continue on the R524 for approximately 117km to the Punda Maria entrance to the Kruger Park.(+/- 605km)
From Haenertsburg continue on the R71 towards Tzaneen and at Tzaneen turn left onto the R36 towards Polokwane. After 20.2km turn right onto the Giyani road. At the intersection with the R81 turn right towards Giyani. After passing through Giyani turn right at the intersection with the R524 and stay on this road to the Punda Maria entrance to Kruger Park.

Book: witsbc234@gmail.com for tour.

Accommodation must be booked directly with the South African National Parks Board via their website <https://www.sanparks.org/parks/kruger/> or phone 012 428 9111

GPS: S 22°41'31.8" E 31°01'05.7"

Meet: Meet 14h00 Monday 30 October in front of Reception.

Cost: R500 participation fee.
Accommodation rates currently range from R285 per night for a two-person camp site to R1,216 per night for a two-person bungalow. There is a 1% community fund and a R115 per day SA conservation fee (not applicable to Wild Card holders)
Sunset drives are R402 per person

Leader: Andy Featherstone (083 259 0231)

SABAP2: 2240_3100+

Target Bird: Pennant-winged Nightjar

Optional post-tour add-on – 3 -5 November (2 Nights)

From Punda Maria we head back towards Johannesburg via our last destination the Soutpansberg. There we will spend Friday afternoon, Saturday, and Sunday morning birding in the company of the renowned local guide Samson Mulaudzi. Places we will visit will include Entabeni Afro-montane Forest, the Luvuvhu riverbank, the Royal Macadamia Farm's Muirhead Dam and surrounds and Tshivhazwaulu Dam. Potential birds to be seen Bat Hawk, Crowned Eagle, African Broadbill, Grey Cuckooshrike, African Finfoot, Blue-spotted Wood Dove, African Emerald Cuckoo, African Pygmy Goose, Allen's Gallinule, Magpie & Red-backed Mannikin and many more woodland species resident in the area.

Route: From Johannesburg travel North on the N1 to Makhado/Louis Trichardt. At the Makhado Crossing Mall turn right onto the R524 towards Thohoyandou and continue for approximately 34km. Final directions to accommodation will be issued nearer the time.
From Punda Maria exit the park via the Punda Maria gate and head towards Makhado/Louis Trichardt on the R524. Continue through Thohoyandou on the R524 for approximately 48 km. Directions to accommodation will be issued nearer the time.

Book: witsbc234@gmail.com

GPS: S 23°04'17.4" E 30°12'46.3"

Meet: Meet 14h00 venue to be confirmed

Cost:	R500 per person guiding fee plus: Dinner, bed & breakfast accommodation: R1,550 per person Self-catering options TBC Camping at Lalani cost per person is R330
Leader:	Samson Mulaudzi
SABAP2:	2300_3010+
Target Bird:	African Broadbill
18 NOVEMBER / SATURDAY ATLASING DAY PENTADS WITHIN THE SOUTHEAST OR SOUTHWEST QUADRANTS	
<p>Atlasing days are held once a month to atlas the pentads falling within the Greater Gauteng area. If you would like to learn more or take part, please contact: Werner van Goethem on 082-462-7108. You don't have to be an expert to join in, you can travel with an experienced atlaser and learn how to atlas.</p>	
Coordinator:	Werner van Goethem (082 462 7108)
SABAP2:	Pentads to be allocated
19 NOVEMBER / SUNDAY OUTING K GASWANE NATURE RESERVE, RUSTENBURG & ROCKWALL DAM	
<p>Helen Badenhorst and her husband from the Rustenburg Bird Club will be our guides and they know the area well. Kgaswane Mountain Reserve, adjacent to the town of Rustenburg, can be very rewarding as it gives one the opportunity to drive up into the mountainous areas. This 5300-hectare reserve is set in the biodiverse habitats of the northern slopes of the Magaliesberg Mountains. Habitats vary from quartzite peaks, broadleaved woodland, to stands of protea trees, to wetlands and rolling grasslands. The principal wetland which forms the central area of the reserve is the catchment area for the Hex River. Verreaux's Eagle are often encountered on the drive to the camping area, and Cape Vultures, Sentinel and Short-toed Rock-Thrush, White-bellied Korhaan, Black-chested Snake Eagle, Coqui Francolin, and Eastern Long-billed Larks can all be encountered on the drive around the reserve.</p> <p>From Kgaswane we will travel to Rockwall Dam. During a recent bird count, 895 birds were counted, including Pink-backed Pelican, Caspian Tern, Lesser Flamingo and Greater Flamingo. Other specials seen in the past year include Lesser Black-backed Gull, Ruddy Turnstone and African Skimmer. Additional interesting birds occasionally seen are Yellow-billed Storks, Great-crested Grebe, Brown-throated Martin, Blue-cheeked Bee-eater, Osprey, all three Teal species and many waders. The acacia thornveld around the dam hosts Magpie Shrike, Acacia Pied Barbet, White-throated Robin-chat, White-fronted Bee-eater, and recently, Little Bee-eater. Telescopes are advisable for those that have.</p>	
Route:	From Johannesburg, take the R512 Malibongwe Drive north to Hartbeespoort. After passing through Hartbeespoort take the on ramp onto the N4 towards Rustenburg. Leave the N4 at junction 18 and take the R104 towards Kroondal/Buffelspoort, after 0,5 km turn right onto Dinie Estates Road. In 4.5 km enter roundabout and take third exit onto R24 and then right onto Tierkloof Road to the Reserve entrance.
Book:	witsbc234@gmail.com
GPS:	S 25°43'03.4" E 27°14'15.5"
Meet:	Meet 06h30 at the entrance to Kgaswane
Cost:	There is an entrance fee payable
Leader:	Helen Badenhorst (083 621 1808)
SABAP2:	2540_2710+, 2530_2710
Target Bird:	Barred Wren-Warbler
22 NOVEMBER / WEDNESDAY OUTING BRONKHORSTSPRUIT DAM NATURE RESERVE	
<p>Bronkhorstspruit Dam offers a good variety of water birds and a selection of grassland species. Species include Little Bittern, South African Shelduck, Lark-like Bunting and many more. Bronkhorstspruit also attracts its share of rarities with Pectoral Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, and Western Yellow Wagtail recently seen.</p>	
Route:	From Johannesburg, travel East on the N12. Take the R42 north towards Bronkhorstspruit for 15.7km. Look for the turn off on the left
Book:	witsbc234@gmail.com
GPS:	S 25°56'12" E 28°41'05"
Meet:	Meet 07h30 at the entrance
Cost:	There is an entrance fee payable
Leader:	Werner van Goethem (082 462 7108)
SABAP2:	2550_2840, 2555_2840

Target Bird:	Marsh Sandpiper
25 NOVEMBER / SATURDAY OUTING TAAIBOS RIVER CRUISE	
<p>The Vaal Bird Club conducts CWAC counts twice a year on the Vaal and Taaibos Rivers. Some of our members have taken part, and it seems like a pleasant idea for a Saturday morning excursion. We will depart from Stonehaven Harbour at Stonehaven on Vaal on the Vaal River, and the boat will leisurely travel along the Vaal and Taaibos Rivers for three hours. Birdwatching will take place from the boat's deck, and many water birds, including the elusive Little Bittern, can be observed. While we enjoy the river cruise, breakfast will be served.</p>	
Route:	From Johannesburg, travel South on the N1. Take the Junction 20 R57 offramp towards Vanderbijlpark and Sasolburg. Continue along the R57 to Vanderbijlpark and turn left onto Ravel Street signposted (R42) Loch Vaal and M1 Vanderbijlpark and then right onto Beethoven Street and right again onto Chopin Street. At the roundabout turn left onto Wenning Street and at the next roundabout turn right. At the stop street turn right onto Rietfontein Street. The entrance to Stonehaven is on the left.
Book:	witsbc234@gmail.com
GPS:	S 26°44'52.8" E 27°49'34.0" (parking area)
Meet:	Meet 08h30 at the harbour for a 09:00 departure
Cost:	TBC
Leader:	Cliff Wright (083 304 5797)
SABAP2:	2645_2745+
Target Bird:	Little Bittern
1 -3 DECEMBER / WEEKEND OUTING BIRDING BIG DAY, WAKKERSTROOM	
<p>This year's Birding Big Day will be held at Wakkerstroom and surrounds with the expert assistance of Lucky Ngwenya to help us find all the local special birds. The Wakkerstroom grasslands are outstanding containing many exciting species such as Yellow-breasted Pipit, Rudd's Lark, Botha's Lark, Ground Woodpecker and Pale-crowned Cisticola. We will be using local guide Lucky to help us find the more difficult grassland species.</p>	
Route:	Take the N3 South and take the Balfour off-ramp (just past Heidelberg). Turn left onto the R23 towards Standerton, go through Standerton and carry on to Volksrust. As you get close to Volksrust, take the very first road to the left (there is a B&B on your left) and wind your way through the suburb till you reach a traffic light after about 1 km. Go straight at the traffic light, this is the R543 to Wakkerstroom which is 27km further along.
Book:	witsbc234@gmail.com
GPS:	S27°21'56.4", E30°07'46.9"
Meet:	16:00 Friday 1 December, venue to be confirmed
Cost:	Self-catering accommodation: R1,850 per person Single supplement (limited availability): R1,300 Camping at Oude Stasie cost per person is R450
Leader:	Lucky Ngwenya and Andy Featherstone (083 259 0231)
SABAP2:	Pentads 2720_3005+
Target Bird:	White-bellied Korhaan
6 DECEMBER / WEDNESDAY OUTING NORTHCLIFF RIDGE ECOPARK	
<p>Join Andy for an early morning walk at Northcliff Ridge, formerly known as Aasvoëlkop, with its landmark water tower built in 1939. This small park (11 hectares), enclosed with palisade fencing, is 1807m above sea level, making it the second highest point in Johannesburg from which you can enjoy a 360-degree view of Johannesburg and beyond. Various swifts, swallows and martins grace the air with their presence and one can also normally enjoy good views of the migrant European Bee-eaters that may be plentiful at times. Be on the lookout for the occasional Cape Rock Thrush; Striped Pipit and even Peregrine Falcon.</p>	
Route:	Travelling along Beyers Naudé Drive (M5) (from Melville towards Honeydew), turn left into Frederick Drive and follow the road as it ascends the hill. Turn left into Hearn Drive, pass the Northcliff Manor Guest House and then continue along Rockey Drive. Turn right into Louie Avenue, proceed through the boom and turn right into Lucky Avenue where there is parking at the base of the water tower.
Book:	witsbc234@gmail.com

GPS:	S26°08'45.7", E27°58'12.2"
Meet:	08:00
Leader:	Andy Featherstone (083 259 0231)
SABAP2:	Pentad 2605_2755
Target Bird:	Striped Pipit

9 DECEMBER / SATURDAY END OF YEAR BRAAI PRESIDENT RIDGE BIRD SANCTUARY

The year-end function will take place at President Ridge Bird Sanctuary. There are fixed tables and benches but for additional comfort bring your own camping chairs. It will take the form of a Bring-and-braai, so all you need to bring is your own meat, braai tongs, crockery and cutlery, drinks, and a tablecloth. Braai fires, salads, rolls etc. will be provided by WBC.

Arrive in time for guided bird walks in the morning

Route: From the N1 Western Bypass take the R512 Malibongwe Road towards Johannesburg. After crossing the intersection with Republic Road turn left onto Cross Street and then first right onto Malcolm Road. The entrance to the sanctuary is 400m on the left-hand side with parking in front of the Duneden apartment block.

Book: witsbc234@gmail.com

GPS: S26°06'31.17", E27°59'35.94"

Meet: 09h30 at entrance

Leader: WBC Committee Members

SABAP2: Pentad 2605_2755

10 DECEMBER / SUNDAY ATLASING DAY PENTADS WITHIN THE SOUTHEAST OR SOUTHWEST QUADRANTS

Atlasing days are held once a month to atlas the pentads falling within the Greater Gauteng area. If you would like to learn more or take part, please contact: Werner van Goethem on 082-462-7108. You don't have to be an expert to join in, you can travel with an experienced atlaser and learn how to atlas.

Coordinator: Werner van Goethem (082 462 7108)

SABAP2: Pentads to be allocated

10 JANUARY 2024 / WEDNESDAY OUTING NORTHERN FARM

Northern Farm has a wide range of habitats with a number of dams and large expanses of grassland. The reserve is particularly good for raptors with *Black Sparrowhawk*, *African Fish-Eagle* and *Long-crested Eagle* regularly seen. Northern Farm is also an excellent area for *Orange-breasted Waxbill* as well as the many waterfowl that frequent the dams. January is also a good time to sort through the flocks of Amur Falcons for the occasional Red-footed Falcon that has occurred there regularly over recent years.

Route: From Randburg take the R512 Malibongwe Drive past Cosmo City and Cosmo City shopping centre. At the traffic lights at the top of the hill, turn right onto the R114 towards Diepsloot. After 9km, the entrance is a white gateway on the left with a "City of Johannesburg Northern Farm" sign. Once through the gate meet at the parking area.

Book: witsbc@mweb.co.za or (011) 782-7267

GPS: S25°56'15.41", E27°59'19.74"

Meet: 08h00 at the parking area

Cost: There is an entrance fee payable to the leader on arrival.

Leader: Andy Featherstone (083 259 0231)

SABAP2: Pentad 2555_2755

Target Bird: Black Sparrowhawk

13 JANUARY / SATURDAY ATLASING DAY PENTADS WITHIN THE SOUTHEAST OR SOUTHWEST QUADRANTS

Atlasing days are held once a month to atlas the pentads falling within the Greater Gauteng area. If you would like to learn more or take part, please contact: Werner van Goethem on 082-462-7108. You don't have to be an expert to join in, you can travel with an experienced atlaser and learn how to atlas.

Coordinator:	Werner van Goethem (082 462 7108)
SABAP2:	Pentads to be allocated
14 JANUARY 2024 / SUNDAY OUTING ZAAGKUILSDRIFT ROAD	
The Zaagkuilsdrift Road has become almost legendary in Gauteng birding circles for yielding a great number of the special birds to be found in the region. The road runs parallel to the Pienaar's River, from the town of Pienaarsrivier to the semi-rural village of Kgomo-Kgomo. In years of good rainfall, the river forms a floodplain but there's always good birding to be enjoyed in the adjacent acacia woodland.	
Route:	Take the N1 north through Pretoria towards Polokwane. Approximately 63km from the N1/N4 junction in Pretoria take the Pienaarsrivier/Rust de Winter offramp (exit 205). Turn left on the R25 towards Pienaarsrivier and drive approximately 700m towards the intersection with the R101. Just before the intersection turn left onto the parking area in front of the Pienaarsrivier Supermarket.
Book:	witsbc234@gmail.com
GPS:	S25°12'18.70", E28°17'48.09" (Pienaarsrivier Supermarket parking area)
Meet:	06h30 at the start of the route at the railway line crossing
Leader:	TBC
SABAP2:	Pentad 2505_2810+
Target Bird:	Blue-cheeked Bee-eater
17 JANUARY 2024 / EAST RAND WEDNESDAY CWAC ROLFES & PARK HAVEN PANS	
Book:	<u>Awie (083 677 7097) as attendance is limited to a few participants.</u>
GPS:	26°10'16.3"S 28°13'13.1"E
Meet:	07h00 – Thembelihle, 1 Michael Place, Yaldwin Road, Jet Park
Leader:	Awie Coetzee (083 677 7097)
20-21 JANUARY / CWAC WEEKEND CAMP NYLSVLEY NATURE RESERVE (IBA SA008)	
Route:	Travel on the N1 North. At the Kranskop Toll Plaza, take the R33 Nylstroom exit. Travel into Nylstroom. At the crossing with R101, turn right in the direction of N1 - Pietersburg and Naboomspruit. Near Middelfontein, turn left towards Naboomspruit. Take the R101 and turn right to the Boekenhout station. OR: Travel on the N1 and take the Mookgopong / Naboomspruit turnoff. Turn left and follow the road until meeting up with the old road. Turn left towards Nylstroom and proceed about 10km southwards until Boekenhout station turnoff. THEN Continue on the dirt road over the N1 and then the railway line. Continue straight for about 2km. Nylsvley is well sign posted and the gate is on your left.
Book:	witsbc234@gmail.com
GPS:	main gate S24°38'50.8", E28°39'49.0"
Meet:	07h00 on Saturday
Leader:	Barbi Forsyth
SABAP2:	Pentad 2435_2840
20 JANUARY/ EAST RAND SATURDAY CWAC KORSMAN, SAND & BULLFROG PANS	
Book:	<u>Werner (082 462 7108) as attendance is limited to a few participants</u>
GPS:	26°00'32.2"S 28°25'27.1"E
Meet:	07h00 at the Caltex Garage, R25 / R50 intersect, Bapsfontein
21 JANUARY/ EAST RAND SUNDAY CWAC ELANDSVLEI & VARKFONTEIN PANS	
Book:	<u>Werner (082 462 7108) as attendance is limited to a few participants</u>
GPS:	26°00'32.2"S 28°25'27.1"E

Meet: 07h00 at the Caltex Garage, R25 / R50 intersect, Bapsfontein

**26 - 28 JANUARY/ WEEKEND OUTING
WAGONDRIFT LODGE, CULLINAN**

An introduction to birding, butterflies, dragonflies, and more for our younger members and families. Bring your grandchildren, bring your kids, bring their friends on the weekend of 26th to 28th of January 2024.

Join Chris Hines & Lance Robinson on a weekend at Wagondrift Lodge (North of Pretoria) for an introduction to the diversity of birds and other beasts around us. We will be birding in the early part of the day and looking at butterflies, dragonflies, and other bugs (including spiders) later when the birds tend to go quiet. Wagondrift is on the edge of the "Seringveld" – the broad-leaved deciduous woodlands that occur on sandy soils – this is the dominant vegetation type here. Still, there is a nice variety of habitats on the property including a vlei (good for dragons and butterflies), patches of thornveld, and some grasslands. Bird species include Bushveld Pipit, Green-capped Eremomela, Tinkling Cisticola, and Melodious Lark. We hope to be able to offer participants some up-close views of other bird species as we will be setting up a ringing station close by.

We will stay at the Trading Store at Wagondrift and will be the only folks there. The prices below are for the accommodation for the weekend – preference will be given to families & younger members.

Route: Travel North on the N1 and take the R513 offramp (Junction 152). Turn right across the highway on Sefako Makgatho Drive and after 1.1km turn left onto the R573 Moloto Road. Continue on the R573 for 43.4km to Moloto and turn left onto the R567. After 6.8km turn left (Waidmannsheil Safaris is on the corner) and after 1.3km the entrance to Wagondrift Lodge is on the right.

Book: witsbc234@gmail.com

GPS: S25°24'09.1", E28°36'06.2"

Meet: 18h00 at the braai area on Friday

Leader: Chris Hines (073 332 7578) and Lance Robinson (082 927 9785)

Cost: Participation fee R125 per person
Accommodation R640 pp sharing. R1,280 pp single
Caravans R500 per van
Tents R300 per tent

SABAP2: Pentad 2520_2835

**26 - 28 JANUARY/ NYLSVLEY BIRDING BASH
NYLSVLEY NATURE RESERVE**

For 20 years FoN has organised an annual woodland bird census. From 2024 the woodland census will be replaced by a Birding Bash (woodland and water birds) designed to be a fun filled birding weekend, but which also provides some scientific data. The vision is for this to be an annual event for the decade to come.

The Birding Bash will take place from 17hr00 on Friday 26 to 10hr00 on Sunday 28 Jan 2023. Separate teams of between one and four persons will bird in the different habitats of Nylsvley. Teams will be asked to bird in a combination of two habitats assigned to each group, and as many other habitats as the groups wish to cover, conducted at whatever times in the day the teams choose. In this way all habitats will be covered by at least one team. All habitats will be accessible on foot, but for some habitats vehicle access will be limited. Participants can form their own teams or be included in other teams. To give the bash some scientific value each team should have one BirdLasser literate member who will record sightings according to the BirdLasser protocol.

Accommodation choices are between camping, Hamerkop Group Camp, Ducks Den Cottages, or Heron House. Friday evening will be a meat bring-and-braai with vegetables by FoN. Other meals (for all participants) will be provided by FoN at Hamerkop to facilitate meeting and chatting at mealtimes and around the campfire. The cost will depend on the accommodation chosen and include the Reserve entrance fee. Please bring your own drinks.

Participants who wish to participate without staying at Nylsvley will pay a nominal amount to cover administration costs and make a small contribution to FoN (used to support the reserve).

Programme: Friday: From 15hr00 collect maps and receive allocated habitats. 19hr00 meat bring and braai.
Saturday: 06hr00 coffee and rusks; 10hr00 brunch; 17hr00- 20hr00 dinner (allows some night birding).
Sunday: 06hr00 coffee and rusks; 10hr00 brunch.

Book: Nicky: (071 674 4723) nfwood@icon.co.za and copy to Johna: (082 492 2880)
accipitertours@gmail.com

Cost:	R750 pp camping. R850 pp sharing two per room in the Hamerkop Group Camp. R1150 single. R2800 for one Ducks Den cottage (three cottages, accommodates two in each cottage). R8400 for Heron House (accommodates six). Must book the whole house. R 150 pp (excluding entrance fee and meals) for participants not using Nylsvley accommodation.
27 JANUARY / EAST RAND SATURDAY CAR RAYTON	
Book:	<u>Werner (082 462 7108) as attendance is limited to a few participants.</u>
Meet:	07h00 – Caltex Garage, R25 / R50 intersect, Bapsfontein
Leader:	Werner van Goethem (082 462 7108)
27 JANUARY / WEST RAND SATURDAY CAR LENASIA AND CARLETONVILLE	
Route:	Routes GC03 and GC04 Lenasia and Carletonville
Book:	<u>Christo Venter (083 655 1912) as numbers taking part are limited</u>
Meet:	06h00
Leader:	Koos van Dijk (083 294 4700)
SABAP2:	various pentads depending on CAR route
28 JANUARY / EAST RAND SUNDAY CWAC MARIEVALE BIRD SANCTUARY (IBA SA021)	
Marievale has recently been added to the East Rand's CWAC portfolio and always produces a good array of water birds. As this is a large area to cover for a CWAC count volunteers are welcomed.	
Book:	witsbc234@gmail.com
Meet:	07h00
Leader:	Awie Coetzee (083 677 7097)
28 JANUARY / HONORARY RANGERS SUNDAY CWAC KLIPVOOR DAM, BORAKALALO NATIONAL PARK	
The Honorary Rangers are appealing for CWAC count volunteers to assist with the water bird count on this large body of water.	
Book:	witsbc234@gmail.com
Meet:	07h00
Leader:	Leslie Cornish (082 806 6415)
Programme Planning: Andy Featherstone – Conservation Activities: Lance Robinson Courses: Fiona van Zyl - Meetings: Diana Cowen Atlassing: Werner van Goethem	

SABAP2/ BIRDMAPPING

Calling all BIRDMAPPERS!

Werner Van Goethem, Wits Bird Club SABAP2 coordinator, has organised the following exclusive atlas days that all members can participate in:

Saturday 16 September	Sunday 10 December
Sunday 22 October	Saturday 13 January 2024
Saturday 18 November	

Please e-mail werner.van.goethem@absamail.co.za with your contact details and Observer number (if you are a registered Observer). If you are interested in becoming an Observer, send your details to Werner and he will assist with the process of getting you started. You do not have to be a registered observer to take part, anyone keen to participate can join in and act as a “spotter”.

Atlassing/ BIRDMapping adds a whole new dimension to your birding and is a contribution, through citizen science, to a better understanding of our birdlife!

GLOSSARY:

BBD – BIRDING BIG DAY: The annual BirdLife South Africa Birding Big Day is a fun, yet competitive day for South Africa’s birdwatchers, both beginners and competitive twitchers, while at the same time raising much-needed funds for the organisation’s important bird conservation and bird species monitoring work. Anyone can take part, anywhere in South Africa. Get a group of fellow birders together and visit your favourite birding spot; get the family together for a day out or just enjoy the birds in your garden. Let’s put the BIG back into Birding Big Day.

CAR - COORDINATED AVIFAUNAL ROADCOUNT: Large, conspicuous birds offer the opportunity to monitor their populations by using the road count technique where observations are made from vehicles covering fixed routes. The counts take place twice a year, once in midsummer and once in midwinter. Comparisons can then be made.

CWAC - COORDINATED WATERBIRD COUNT: a programme of regular mid-summer and mid-winter censuses at a large number of South African wetlands. All the counts are conducted by volunteers, people and organisations with a passion for waterbird conservation. It is one of the largest and most successful citizen science programmes in Africa, providing much-needed data for water bird conservation around the world.

IBA - IMPORTANT BIRD AREA: The designation of a locality as an IBA means that it satisfies at least one of a set of strict criteria that define it as a site of importance for birds, thus providing scientific backing for the conservation argument and facilitating legal protection.

SABAP2 –SECOND SOUTHERN AFRICAN BIRD ATLAS PROJECT: the follow-up on the Southern African Bird Atlas Project (for which the acronym was SABAP, and which is now referred to as SABAP1). The first atlas project took place from 1987-1991. The current project is a joint venture between the Animal Demography Unit at the University of Cape Town, BirdLife South Africa and the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI). The project aims to map the distribution and relative abundance of birds in southern Africa and the atlas area includes South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. SABAP2 was launched in Namibia in May 2012. The second atlas project started on 1 July 2007 and plans to run indefinitely. The fieldwork for this project is done by more than a thousand volunteers, known as citizen scientists - they collect the data from the field at their own cost and in their own time and as such, they make a huge contribution to the conservation of birds and their habitat. The unit of data collection is the pentad, five minutes of latitude by five minutes of longitude, squares with sides of roughly 9 km. There are 17000 pentads in the original atlas area of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland, and a further 10000 in Namibia.

NOTES

1. Always consult a map before leaving home or the AA for routes, tollgate costs and road works. GPS coordinates (where applicable) have been sourced from the internet or from the venue and it should be noted that accuracy, completeness, reliability, usability or suitability cannot be guaranteed. WBC assumes no responsibility for incorrect results or damages resulting from the use of the data.
2. Entrance fees may apply at some venues and these may have been revised by the time of publication.
3. Before the walk, please advise your leader of any medical problems.
4. If you have booked for a weekend away/ outing/ event requiring payment, but you are unable to attend and if you haven't cancelled before the due date, you are still liable to pay the Club. We have to pay the venues very shortly after the due date mentioned in the programme. Too many losses are incurred because members are neither cancelling nor paying for their bookings. If your payment is not received by the due date, we will have to cancel your booking/ reservation.

5. PAYMENT OPTIONS FOR WEEKENDS AWAY AND OUTINGS

You may make your payments for weekends away and other outings in any of the following ways:

- a. Preferably pay directly into the Wits Bird Club Bank account and email deposit slip to witsbc234@gmail.com
Banking details as follows:
BANK – NEDBANK CRESTA
BRANCH CODE: 191-305
ACCOUNT NO: 1913 257 789
NAME OF ACCOUNT: WITS BIRD CLUB
- b. Please note **NO CREDIT CARD FACILITY**.
- c. ***Please assist the Club to minimise exorbitant banking fees by paying by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) wherever possible.***

RULES REGARDING BOOKINGS AND PAYMENTS OF OUTINGS:

- ✈ A booking for an outing or weekend away will only be confirmed once a deposit has been received;
- ✈ If the cost is below R1000, payment in full must be paid on booking;
- ✈ If the cost of the outing/weekend is over R1000 a 50% deposit must be paid on booking;
- ✈ In all cases 25% will be non-refundable to cover costs;
- ✈ The final 50% must be paid one week prior to the closing date;
- ✈ Non-members accompanied by members are welcome. For weekend outings and courses, an additional administration fee of 20% may be payable.

NB: Grading of outings - distance to be walked or steepness of terrain

Most outings are grade① we will therefore only show grades ② and ③ on the programme

Please note the following:

- ① An easy stroll suitable for people of all ages and abilities
- ② A comfortable but slightly challenging walk (e.g. uneven terrain with some gradient)
- ③ A strenuous / challenging walk (fairly long distances covered, or steep gradients, or difficult terrain)

FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT:

Lauraine Leigh

PHONE : 083 387 1960 • EMAIL: witsbc234@gmail.com

WEBSITE: www.witsbirdclub.org.za