



**WITWATERSRAND BIRD CLUB  
AFFILIATED TO BIRDLIFE SOUTH AFRICA**

**PROGRAMME 1/2012  
FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN BRIEF**



Date	Activity	Leader	Venue
<b>January 2012</b>			
6-8	CWAC Weekend Camp	Barbi Forsyth	Nylsvley NR
7	Saturday CWAC	Lance Robinson	Vaalkop Dam Nature Reserve
11	Wednesday outing	Gill Hardingham	President Ridge Bird Sanctuary
14	Saturday morning CWAC	Val Odendaal	Rolfe's Pan Nature Reserve
15	Sunday morning CWAC	Val Odendaal	Elandsvlei (Dickin's Pan)
15	Sunday outing	Koos van Dijk	Kloofendal Nature Reserve
19	Thursday evening meeting	Peter Greaves	Delta Environmental Centre
20-22	Weekend away	Lauraine Leigh	Nylsvley Nature Reserve
22	Sunday outing	Gail Schaum	Walter Sisulu Botanical Garden
27-29	CAR Weekend	Barbi Forsyth	Chrissiesmeer
27-29	Annual Woodland Census	FoN	Nylsvley Nature Reserve
<b>February 2012</b>			
1	Wednesday outing	Geoff Lockwood	Florence Bloom Bird Sanctuary
3-5	Weekend away	Mike Fullerton	Borakalalo National Park
8, 15, 22 & 29	Birding basics course	Philip Tarboton & Lance Robinson	Delta Environmental Centre
11	Saturday outing	André Marx	Northern Farm
16	Thursday evening meeting	WBC AGM	Delta Environmental Centre
19	Sunday outing	John Bradshaw	Boschenvaal
24-26	Weekend away	Lance Robinson	Wolfhuiskraal Farm
<b>March 2012</b>			
3	Saturday outing	Peter Huggins	Korsman Bird Sanctuary
9-11	Weekend away	Frans Krige (local guide)	Sweetwaters & Verlorenvlei
15	Thursday evening meeting	Etienne Marais	Delta Environmental Centre
17	Swifts & Swallows: ID course & outing	Stephan Terblanche	Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve
16-18	BLSA AGM	BLSA & BirdLife E Cape	Port Elizabeth
21	Wed Public Holiday	Lance Robinson	Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve
25	Sunday outing	Andy Featherstone	Abe Bailey Nature Reserve
<b>April 2012</b>			
1	Sunday outing	Ginny Mes	Henley-on-Klip
4	Wed outing	Jeanne Thomas	Misty Hills
13-15	Weekend away	Murrie Slotar	Barberton
15	Sunday outing	Lia Steen	Segwati Ranch
19	Thursday evening meeting	Lucy Kemp	Delta Environmental Centre
22	Sunday outing	Stan Madden	Blesbokspruit RAMSAR site tour
27-1	Long Weekend Away	Murrie Slotar	Greater Kruger Conservancy: Nyarhi Bush camp
<b>May 2012</b>			
1	Tuesday Public Holiday	Val Odendaal	Beaulieu Bird Sanctuary
6	Sunday outing	Lesley Cornish	Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve
12	Saturday outing	Pat van Nierop	Modderfontein Conservation Park
17	Thursday evening meeting	Wim Spronk	Delta Environmental Centre
18-20	Weekend away	Peter Wilgenbus	Dingilizi Game Farm, Dinokeng
26-27	SASOL birds & birding fair	BLSA	Jo'burg zoo
<p align="center"><b>Programme Planning:</b> Lance Robinson (LR); <b>CWAC &amp; CAR:</b> Barbi Forsyth (BF);  <b>Evening Meetings</b> Marguerite Waite (MW); <b>Atlasing:</b> Andy Featherstone (AF)  <b>Forthcoming Outing/ Events to diarise:</b>            Pelagic trip &amp; birding in-and-around Durban (9 – 12 August)            Rwanda/ Ghana – dates TBA</p>			

**CLUB MEETINGS AT DELTA ENVIRONMENTAL CENTRE  
ARRANGED BY MARGUERITE WAITE**

**Route:** Follow First Avenue, Linden, towards Johannesburg until it becomes Rustenburg Road. Turn left into Road No 3 at the robot. Follow the road past King David Primary School and into the Park. Once in the Park, turn left at the T-junction and follow the road to the parking lot of the Delta Environmental Centre.

**Price:** R20 (unless otherwise stated)

**Time:** 19h15 for 19h30 (unless otherwise stated).

Thursday 19 Jan	Peter Greaves	A Glimpse of India
<p>Peter became interested in birding in the mid-1980s when something very colourful flew in front of the car one day in the Kruger Park. A couple of years later, on another trip to Kruger, his then 13 year old daughter said: "We should keep a list of what we see today, so we can see which different ones we see tomorrow." On that trip they saw 144 species in 4 days and he was hooked. His love of travel (59 countries and islands on all 7 Continents) complements his birding passion and enables him to search for interesting birds in interesting places. Recently Peter decided to properly 'retire' and promptly volunteered to become administrator of the Birds in Reserves Project (BIRP) - part of the ADU. He runs with BIRP when not travelling to new and exciting locations to see and photograph birds.</p> <p>The trip to India was in January 2011 and was timed to fit in with the northern winter when many birds spend time in India. The talk includes pictures of lots of birds, animals as well as of the Taj Mahal, some scenery and an account of a trip further north to the foothills of the Himalaya, where 4 days in-and-around Jim Corbett Tiger Reserve, produced many birds and animals, but no tigers.</p>		
Thursday 16 Feb	Chairman and Committee	The 52nd AGM of the Witwatersrand Bird Club
<p>At this meeting the President and the Committee to hold office for the year 2012 will be elected. After the Annual General Meeting there will be cheese and wine for all to enjoy.</p> <p>Please come along to the AGM and celebrate with our winners of the annual <b>Diamond Award</b> and <b>Bearded Vulture Award</b> (in honour of the late Steven Piper).</p>		
Thursday 15 Mar	Etienne Marais	Planet Resource Managers – birds as the world's greatest travellers
<p>Migration is one of the most fascinating aspects of the lives of the birds around us. The subject of scientific enquiry and research for hundreds of years, new technologies are now only uncovering the mysteries and marvels of bird travel. This talk takes a look at bird migration from a Southern African perspective and includes aspects of navigation, energy usage and the timing of migration. The talk also includes a novel look at Palaearctic migrants from a global perspective, and suggests some of the fundamental reasons why so many birds risk so much in performing long distance journeys.</p> <p>Etienne is well known to many Gauteng birders and owns and operates <i>Indicator Birding</i>. He was a founder member of <i>The Raiders of the Last Lark</i>, the first birding team to record 300 species on one day.</p>		
Thursday 19 Apr	Lucy Kemp	The Mabula Ground-Hornbill Project
<p>Lucy is the Project Manager and has an MSc from the University of Cape Town and conservation experience in South Africa (wild dog, cheetah, and artisanal fisheries), Namibia (black rhino and community-based resource management) and Thailand (feeding ecology of hornbills in Khao Yai National Park).</p> <p>The project aims to reverse the decline of the Southern Ground-Hornbill (<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>) population by 2020. This long-lived, slow-breeding bird is threatened primarily by habitat loss, poisoning and persecution yet is revered by several groups as the rain bird, thus having important cultural significance. It's booming, thunder-like, call was once common, but the population is now in decline. It meets all the criteria for being considered '<i>Endangered</i>' and without conservation intervention, is doomed to extinction in South Africa.</p>		
Thursday 17 May	Wim Spronk	Nature Videos
<p>Wildlife video maker, Wim Spronk, will showcase just a few of his selection of videos. The presentation will commence with a short video entitled "The Creator of the Moon", which deals with the life-cycle of the Praying Mantis. The San (Bushmen) believed that the mantis created the moon. "The First Fisherman" is a prime example of bird intelligence. An extract from his video: "Birds and their Ways", deals with the wonder of bird migration and even shows some of the WBC members involved in ringing activities. An underwater sequence shows a dragonfly larvae catching fish under water and, eventually when leaving the water; it is transformed into a dragonfly proper. In between showing videos, he will tell stories about his experiences as a bird and wildlife video maker.</p>		

**Please assist the Club to minimise exorbitant banking fees by paying by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) wherever possible.**

**WITWATERSRAND BIRD CLUB  
DIRECTIONS AND INFORMATION OF OUTINGS AND EVENTS  
JANUARY 2012 – MAY 2012**

**NOTE OFFICE CLOSED: 15 DECEMBER 2011 – 10 JANUARY 2012**

• **6-8 JANUARY / CWAC WEEKEND CAMP  
NYLSVLEY NATURE RESERVE (IBA SA008)**

**Route:**

1. Travel on the N1 North. At the Kranskop Toll Plaza take the Nylstroom exit onto the R33. Travel into Nylstroom. At the crossing with R101 turn right in the direction of N1 - Pietersburg and Naboomspruit. Near Middelfontein turn left towards Naboomspruit. (Do not go straight as this leads back onto the N1 to Pietersburg). Take the R101 and turn right to the Boekenhout station.

**OR**

Travel on the N1 and take the Naboomspruit turnoff. Turn left and follow road until meeting up with old road. Turn left towards Nylstroom and proceed about 10km southwards until Boekenhout station turnoff.

2. **THEN** Continue on 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** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267.

**Meet:** 07h00 on Saturday.

**Leader:** Barbi Forsyth (082 336 6217)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2435\_2840

• **7 JANUARY / SATURDAY CWAC (NOTE: NO CLUB OUTING)  
VAALKOP DAM NATURE RESERVE**

**Route** Take R512 to Brits. Travel through Brits and continue on the Thabazimbi Road (R511) for about 38km. Just after Beestekraal take the left turn "Rustenburg/Vaalkop Dam" over the bridge. Continue to the T-junction and turn right. Follow the road for approx 14km and turn left on to the gravel road to the dam for about 2km.

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 07h30 on Saturday. Please confirm your attendance for the CWAC by no later than 18h00 on Friday 6 January.

**Leader:** Lance Robinson (082 927 9785)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2515\_2725

• **11 JANUARY / WEDNESDAY OUTING  
PRESIDENT RIDGE BIRD SANCTUARY**

This small sanctuary has an active heronry where both *Cattle Egret* and *Black-headed Herons* usually breed. A pair of *Ovambo Sparrowhawk* has taken up residence. The hide provides an ideal spot for bird photographers to capture some amazing bird behaviour, and for birders to obtain close-up views of a number of species.

**Route:** From the concrete highway take Malibongwe Drive through Randburg towards Linden. Cross Republic Road. At the next set of traffic lights turn left into Cross Street. You will come to a four-way stop where you turn right into Malcolm Road. Take the left turn when the road divides and the entrance to the Bird Sanctuary is on the left. In the sanctuary there are wheelchair friendly paths and a Sasol hide

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 09h00 in car park (the reserve is open 07h00 to 17h00 from 01 Oct – 31 March).

**Leader:** Gill Hardingham (011 462 9682)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2605\_2755

• **14 JANUARY / SATURDAY CWAC  
ROLFE'S PAN NATURE RESERVE**

**Route:** Take the N12 Witbank freeway and then the R21 Boksburg/JHB International turn-off (off-ramp No. 429) towards JHB International Airport for 2km. Take the Griffiths Road off-ramp (No. 49) and turn left into Griffiths Road (from JHB International direction, turn right into Griffiths Road). After about 300m turn left into Kelly Road. Follow Kelly Road for approximately 1,7km (you will pass the pan on your right) and turn right at the traffic lights into Yaldwyn Road. Continue for 800m and turn right into Michael Place.

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 07h00 in front of the gates of Thempelihe Equipment.

**Leader:** Val Odendaal (082 921 5019)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2610\_2810

After CWACing at Rolfe's Pan you can spend Saturday night at the cottage at Elandsvlei. Please reserve your accommodation beforehand on either: [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or 011 782 7267 (before 12 January).

- **15 JANUARY / SUNDAY CWAC**  
**ELANDSVLEI (DICKIN'S PAN)**

**Route:** From Johannesburg: Take the Johannesburg Eastern Bypass (N3) and turn-off onto the R25 (Modderfontein Road) travelling northeast past Modderfontein and through Kempton Park for approximately 17km to a T-junction with route 57. Turn left, continue for 800m and right again at the next set of traffic lights staying on the R25.

From OR Tambo International Airport: Travel north on the R21 for ± 14 km to the Kaalfontein / Bapsfontein off-ramp (No 32). Turn left on the R25.

\*From here on the directions apply to both of the above:

Travel northeast for ± 18 km to a T-junction. Turn right towards Delmas (R50). Travel for 1,6km to a four way stop. Carry on straight on the R50 for 6,2km and turn left at the "Kleinsonderhout" turn-off. (Note: This sign is only visible from the other side). Continue on this (dirt) road and take an unmarked left turn after 1,5km. Continue through the cultivated fields for 2,1km to a skew-junction to the right. Turn right and continue for another 600m, following the road through the gate on the left (locked overnight). Once through the gate, keep right (trees on your right). Carry on straight, keeping right all the time. The first marsh / pan is 1 km further on the right. The main pan hide can be reached by carrying straight on, past the first left turn and taking the second left turn.

**GPS:** the Waypoint of the main pan is: S25.99567 E 28.46592

**\*Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267 (before 12 January)

**Meet:** 06h00 at main pan for CWAC

**Leader:** Val Odendaal (082 921 5019)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2555\_2825

**Important Note:** Other than club outings, access to the Elandsvlei pans must be arranged with the landowner, Peter Barnes, on 011 733 1086 or 082 818 4300.

- **15 JANUARY / SUNDAY OUTING**  
**KLOOFENDAL NATURE RESERVE**

We return to this popular Gauteng venue to see if the resident *Black Sparrowhawk* might make an appearance on the day. A good variety of birds are to be found, in a wide range of habitats, in this 150 ha reserve.

**Route:** Take Beyers Naude north. Cross the N1 Western Bypass Freeway. At the next traffic lights turn left into Jim Fouche Road. Keep on Jim Fouche, crossing JG Strydom and Hendrik Potgieter Roads, and then turn right into Christian de Wet Road. At the first traffic lights, turn left into Wilgerood Road, and then second left into Topaz Road. Take the first right into Galena Road. Entrance to Kloofendal is 1km on, on the left.

**\*Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 07h30 at entrance.

**Leader:** Koos van Dijk (083 294 4700)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2605\_2750

- **22 JANUARY / SUNDAY OUTING**  
**WALTER SISULU BOTANICAL GARDEN**

Well known for the *Verreaux's Eagles*, which are seen throughout the year, the garden is also a good place to see a wide variety of birds in a magnificent setting.

**Route:** Travel towards Tarlton/Krugersdorp along the R47 (Hendrik Potgieter Road). Turn left into Doreen Road (approx 10 minutes 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** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 08h00 at entrance.

**Cost:** An entrance fee is payable

**Leader:** Gail Schaum (011 678 6189)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2605\_2750

- **20-22 JANUARY / WEEKEND AWAY**  
**NYLSVLEY NATURE RESERVE (IBA SA008)**

A prime birdwatching destination, in wet years the floodplain is a magnet for a large number of breeding waterbirds, while the acacia bush in turn attracts a large number of thornveld species. The club has booked the rustic campsite for the weekend.

**Route:** Travel north on the N1. At the Kranskop Toll Plaza take the Nylstroom exit onto the R33. Travel into Nylstroom. At the crossing with R101 turn right in the direction of N1 - Pietersburg and Naboomspruit. Near Middelfontein turn left towards Naboomspruit. (Do not go straight as this leads back onto the N1 to Pietersburg). Take the R101 and turn right to the Boekenhout station.

## OR

Travel on the N1 and take the Naboomspruit turnoff. Turn left and follow road until meeting up with old road. Turn left towards Nylstroom and proceed about 10km southwards until Boekenhout station turnoff.

**THEN** Continue on 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** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267.

**Cost:** R75 per person for the weekend (excludes entrance fee)

**Leader:** Lauraine Leigh (083 387 1960)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2435\_2840

### • 27-29 JANUARY / CAR WEEKEND / SABAP2

#### CHRISSIESMEER (IBA SA019)

Seven 4x4 vehicles are needed for the CAR weekend in our precinct at Chrissiesmeer. You do NOT have to be an experienced birder in order to participate. If you do not have a 4x4, you can accompany others, as each vehicle needs a minimum of 2 people per car.

Further details and directions will be sent on confirmation of booking.

**Cost per person for the weekend:** To be advised. **Closing date:** Thursday 19 January 2012.

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Leader:** Barbi Forsyth (082 336 6217)

**SABAP2** various pentads depending on CAR route

### • 27-29 JANUARY / NYLSVLEY WEEKEND CENSUS

#### FRIENDS OF NYLSVLEY ANNUAL WOODLAND CENSUS (IBA SA008)

Knowledgeable and keen birders are invited to help count Nylsvley's woodland bush birds.

Saturday evening speaker: Dr Warwick Tarboton

**Meet:** From 16h00 on Friday for route confirmation, census training & bird ID review.

**Saturday:** 06h00 census.

**Accommodation:** By arrangement. Attendees are invited to stay over in case of bad weather when the census will be done on the Sunday instead.

**Bookings:** Marion Dunkeld-Mengell: Tel/fax: 012-667-2183. E-mail [friendsnylsvley@mweb.co.za](mailto:friendsnylsvley@mweb.co.za)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2435\_2840

### • 1 FEBRUARY / WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON OUTING

#### FLORENCE BLOOM BIRD SANCTUARY, DELTA PARK

Join Geoff Lockwood in his favourite local patch. The park offers birders a variety of garden and woodland species, as well as a number of waterbirds.

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Route:** See directions for evening meetings on page 2

**Time:** 15h00 in the car park

**Leader:** Geoff Lockwood (083 267 4273)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2605\_2800

### • 3-5 FEBRUARY / WEEKEND AWAY

#### BORAKALALO NATIONAL PARK

The Klipvoor dam and Moretele River bring a host of waterbirds to the bushveld. *African Finfoot* is regularly seen along the river, while *Grey-headed Kingfisher* may be seen in the trees below the Moretele Camp. 130 species in a day is possible in summer. The reserve offers a self-guided trail and an extensive road network with picnic spots and bird hides. There is a choice of accommodation for this weekend, either at the Moretele tented camp or in the rustic campsite. A small shop sells basic provisions.

**Accommodation:** *Moretele Safari Tents* equipped with 2 single beds, bedding, clothing cupboard, food storage cupboard, table and 2 chairs, small fridge and braai. No towelling is provided and you are required to provide your own crockery, cutlery and cooking utensils. Ablution facilities are located near the tents and consist of showers and toilets

**Moretele River Camp:** bring and pitch your own tent in this camp overlooking the river. Note that no electricity is available.

**Cost:** Prices exclude park entrance fees. Moretele River Camp: R500 per person for the weekend. Moretele Rustic camp: R200 per person for the weekend

**Route:** Take the R511 to Brits. Cross over the N4 (Rustenburg highway) and at the four-way stop turn right on the R566 towards Rosslyn (i.e. before Brits). Continue for 3.5km and then turn left toward Lethlabile (signposted for Borakolalo). Travel for 36 km through Lethlabile towards Jericho. Turn right at a T-junction and after 1km take the left fork to Legonyane (stay on the tar). Proceed for approx. 16km and then turn left. The gate is 7 km along this road. Please be aware of speed traps, stray animals and pedestrians en-route.

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Leader:** Mike Fullerton (082 653 3219)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2505\_2745

**WITS BIRD CLUB PRESENTS A 'BIRDING BASICS' COURSE  
WITH PHILIP TARBOTON & LANCE ROBINSON**

**WED 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th FEBRUARY 2012 + DAY OUTING TBA**

Whether you are a new birder, perhaps someone needing a refresher course, or maybe even someone noticing birds for the first time, this course is for you. A series of modules have been designed with a step-by-step approach, to systematically build on your birding skills. The modules range from pointing out what to look for, and where to look for it; when to look and why. The birding basics course consists of four modules - and an opportunity to apply your newly acquired skills in the field.

**When:** Lectures on Wednesdays: 8th, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Includes a day outing to the Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve (date to be advised).

**Where:** Delta Environmental Centre, Victory Park

**Time:** 19h00 for 19h15

**Cost:** R500.00

**Contact:** Lauraine for bookings on 011-782-7267 or [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za)

• **11 FEBRUARY / SATURDAY OUTING  
NORTHERN FARM**

A range of habitats occur; a variety of waterfowl is to be found on the dams and the whole area is good for a number of raptors. We hope to see some of the different races of the *Yellow Wagtail*, an uncommon summer visitor to this working farm.

**Route 1:** Take Malibongwe/Hans Strydom (R512) past Cosmo City to Muldersdrift/Laezonia Road, and turn right towards the Lion Park. After 9 kms there is a white gateway on the left with grey and yellow signs – “City of Johannesburg Northern Farm”. Once you are through the entrance (pay leader), proceed to the parking area where we will meet.

**Route 2:** Take William Nicol (R511) towards the Fourways shopping mall. Turn left on to the Witkoppen Road (R564) at the first robots, turn right into Cedar Road (R552). After 8km, turn right at the Lion Park Café on to the R114 Diepsloot Road. After a further 6 km the gate to Northern Farm is on the right. Once you are through the entrance (pay leader), proceed to the parking area where we will meet.

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Cost:** R20 per person, pay leader.

**Meet:** 06h30 to start birding at 07h00

**Leader:** Andre Marx

**WBC Convenor:** Lance Robinson (082 927 9785)

**SAPAB2 Pentad** 2555\_2755

• **19 FEBRUARY / SUNDAY OUTING**

**BOSCHENVAAL, SASOLBURG** \_ (± 70 minute drive from Johannesburg)

Boschenvaal is situated on the banks of the Vaal River and has an extensive list of both water and bushveld birds. *Orange River White-eye* is usually seen. The walk will be followed by a braai at the picturesque lapa overlooking the water. Bring your own chairs.

**Route:** Take the N1 South towards Bloemfontein. Pass through the Grasmere toll; continue on the N1 and cross the Vaal River. Just before the Kroonvaal toll, take the Parys/Sasolburg off-ramp (R59). Turn left onto the R59 towards Sasolburg. Travel ±10 kms and turn left at Barrage sign. Travel 3 kms and turn right at Boschenvaal sign. Sign the book at the manned entrance gate at the turn-off. Travel 3 kms on dirt road through nature reserve. Check in at second manned gate. Travel 150 metres down to private harbour (marina) where we will meet

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 07h30 at private harbour (marina)

**Leader:** John Bradshaw (083 627 5457)

**SABAP2 Pentad** 2645\_2745

• **24-26 FEBRUARY / MIGRANT WARBLER WEEKEND  
WOLFHUISKRAAL FARM**

The Wolfhuiskraal area is well known for producing sightings in late summer, of amongst others: *Common Whitethroat*, *Olive-tree Warbler*, *Thrush Nightingale* and, at times, the most elusive of all: *River Warbler*. *Bronze-winged Courser* is another possible special at this time of year. Depending on the rains of the season, the Zaagkuil drift road to the Kgomo-Kgomo wetland may also produce sightings of crakes and a host of other water associated species. A high clearance vehicle is recommended.

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Route:** Take N1 North Pretoria then N1 Pietersburg/Pretoria. Approx 63km from N1/N4 junction in Pretoria take Pienaarsrivier/Rust Der Winter off ramp (exit no 205). Turn left (R25 Pienaarsrivier) and drive ±700m to stop sign. Turn right (R101 Bela-Bela/Warmbaths) and 1km later turn left on to dirt road at Zaagkuil drift sign. Drive 300m (crossing railway line) and turn right at Zaagkuil drift sign. Drive along this road till you see the Wolfhuiskraal gate on the right which is opposite the 13 km milestone on the left.

**Cost:** R380 per person for the weekend.  
**Leader:** Lance Robinson (082 927 9785)  
**SABAP2** Pentad 2505\_2810

• **3 MARCH / SATURDAY OUTING**

**KORSMAN BIRD SANCTUARY AND POSSIBLE VISIT TO BULLFROG PAN**

Declared a natural reserve in 1967, the sanctuary covers an area of around 44 ha, at the centre is a natural pan about 1.5 metres deep. It is inhabited by about 170 bird species and includes several active heronries. The reedbeds could yield *Little Bittern* or *Black Crake* while the shore edges should be scanned for migrant waders and the surrounding grassland for displaying LBJs. A spotting scope is recommended

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Route:** Take the Atlas Road/Benoni turnoff from the N12 to Witbank. Turn right into Atlas road and proceed to the Total garage (meeting point) on the corner of Atlas and Racecourse Road. The sanctuary is located within a closed off suburb.

**Facilities available:** There are several hides which are accessible to the public. Please bring a picnic lunch. Peter may include a visit to another local pan: Bullfrog pan (this will however depend on the conditions of the pan and if the rains have started)

**Meet:** 07:30 at the Total Garage on corner of Atlas and Racecourse Road, Westdene, Benoni.

**Leader:** Peter Huggins (082 783 3142)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2610\_2815

• **9-11 MARCH / WEEKEND AWAY**

**SWEETWATERS, MPUMALANGA ☺ AND SPECIAL OUTING TO VERLORENVLEI**

Sweetwaters Country Lodge is situated just 30 minutes from Dullstroom in the Draaikraal Valley, which is at the base of the Steenkampsberg Pass. The total area covers 900 hectares of grassland, wetlands and indigenous bush. Over 200 species have been recorded in the area and specials include *Gurney's Sugarbird*; *Blue*, *Grey-crowned* and *Wattled Crane*, and a nesting colony of the endangered *Southern Bald Ibis*. Perhaps this time we will be fortunate to find the *Red-chested Flufftail*.

**Sweetwaters Lodge** has 6 twin (2 single beds) en-suite rooms. **Cost** is R800 per person sharing, for a two night weekend, self-catering. Note: single supplement of R400

The house is fully serviced by 2 staff

**Camping:** Limited camping is available in the garden. One of the bathrooms in the lodge will be allocated to the campers. **Cost for camping** is R165 per person for the weekend.

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

Weekend Programme:

Fri - Check-in from 14h00

Sat - Verlorenvlei outing with local expert, Frans Krige, who was a ranger at the reserve for many years. Frans was one of the founders of the Crane Working Group and White-winged Flufftail Trust. Entrance R30 per person plus R10 per vehicle, payable on entry. This is a morning outing and we expect to be back at the lodge around lunch time. Afternoon birding on Sweetwaters

Sun – Morning outing on Sweetwaters. Departure at leisure

**Route:** Take the N12 (N4) to Witbank and Middelburg. Past Witbank and after the tollgate at Middelburg, take the second off-ramp and turn left towards Middelburg. At the T-junction turn right. About two robots later note the turnoff to Stoffberg R555. Turn left. Continue along the R555, through a pass and past Silos on your right. As soon as you see a garage and shopping centre "Blinkwater" on your right, turn right. This is still the R555. Pass the Tonteldoos turnoff and pass the turnoff to "Koringhuis Guest House". Take the next turnoff to the right R577 to Roosenekal and Lydenburg.

Continue on this road for 18 Km you will see a red and white Vodacom mast and a sign "Sweetwaters" on your left. Turn left. **GPS COORDINATES** S 25 13.728' E 030 03.759.

1800m above sea level – bring warm clothing along.

**Meet:** Check-in after 14:00

**WBC coordinator:** Gisela Ortner (083 414 8542); **Verlorenvlei Leader** Frans Krige

**SABAP2** Pentad 2515\_3000

**NOTICE:** The 83rd **BirdLife South Africa Annual General Meeting** (Flock Port Elizabeth 2012) will be held at 15h00 on **Saturday 17 March 2012** at the Pine Lodge, **Port Elizabeth**, Eastern Cape.

For more information regarding registration, please contact Briar Wright on 041 583 6180, email [brighter2@telkomsa.net](mailto:brighter2@telkomsa.net) or fax 0865187673.

Accommodation options for the Flock 2012 weekend:

Pine Lodge has agreed to give BirdLife South Africa members a special accommodation rate. Those who wish to stay at Pine Lodge must please contact Keri at Pine Lodge on email [enquiries@pinelodge.co.za](mailto:enquiries@pinelodge.co.za), or telephone 041 583 4004, and advise that you are attending the BirdLife South Africa function.

**WITS BIRD CLUB PRESENTS A 'SWIFTS, SWALLOWS & MARTINS' IDENTIFICATION LECTURE & FIELD TRIP**

**WITH STEPHAN TERBLANCHE**

**SAT 17 MARCH**

Need help with the identification of our swallows, swifts and martins? Want to know the difference between a *Lesser Striped* and a *Greater Striped Swallow*; or *Barn* and *Pearl-breasted Swallow*? Stephan will present you with an aid to their identification and more – not to be missed!

**When:** Lecture & outing on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2012

**Where:** Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve: lecture room. Directions on booking.

**Time:** 14h00

**Cost:** R100.00

**Contact:** Lauraine for bookings on 011-782-7267 or [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za)

• **21 MARCH / WEDNESDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY 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. Possible birds to see here include: *Ashy Tit*, *Common Scimitarbill*, *Brown-backed Honeybird*, *Orange River Francolin* and *Long-billed Pipit*.

**Route:** We will be entering the reserve from the new 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** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 07h30 in the parking area.

**Leader:** Lance Robinson (082 927 9785)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2615\_2800

• **25 MARCH / SUNDAY OUTING**

**ABE BAILEY NATURE RESERVE**

Situated near Carletonville on the West Rand, this predominantly Highveld Grassland habitat does have extensive wetland habitats too. Birds are best observed by walking around the reserve where it is possible to obtain good views of a variety of species. Specials for the area include *Orange-breasted Waxbill*, *Northern Black Korhaan* and *African Marsh Harrier*.

**Route:** From Johannesburg, take the M1/N1 to Bloemfontein and then the N12 west to Potchefstroom. Before the railway bridge across the N12, turn right on the R501 to Carletonville. Take the first turning into Carletonville, cross the railway line and then proceed along Agnew Road to the 4-way stop on Annan Road. Cross over Annan road passing the Carletonville Technical College on the right. Turn right into Ada Street and continue straight over the bridge (grain silos on the right) until you see signs indicating Khutsong to the left. Proceed as to Khutsong, and keep a sharp lookout for the Abe Bailey Project sign on the right 3.9km from the turning. If you reach the little town of Welverdiend you have gone too far.

**\*Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 07h30. Picnic site is available.

**Leader:** Andy Featherstone (083 259 0231)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2615\_2720

• **1 APRIL SUNDAY OUTING**

**HENLEY-ON-KLIP**

Join us for a morning of birding in the peaceful village of Henley-on-Klip. We will visit the hides situated on a small wetland, and also the weir where a number of birds can be viewed from a pedestrian bridge. Bring your picnic lunch and relax in one of the lovely gardens alongside the river. *Long-crested Eagle* has previously been seen.

**Route:** Take the R59 to Vereeniging. Take the off-ramp to HENLEY DRIVE (Randvaal) (this is the second Randvaal offramp after the Engen Garage.) Turn left on the bridge, further down is a 3-way stop at the Total Garage – this is the meeting point.

**\*Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 07h30 at Total Garage in Henley Drive.

**Leader:** Ginny Mes (083 442 4099)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2630\_2800

- **4 APRIL / WEDNESDAY OUTING**

**MISTY HILLS**

The Misty Hills Country Hotel is a charming stone-built hotel complex, set in lush gardens and surrounded by natural woodland and grassland in the heart of the Kromdraai Valley.

**Route:** Take Beyers Naude towards Honeydew. Note that the road becomes one lane in each direction and continue past Garden World. After Oakfield Farm, the road becomes two lanes again. Turn at the first road left into Drift Boulevard / Muldersdrift (R114).

The Hotel is about 800 meters on the right-hand side.

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 09h00

**Leader:** Jeanne Thomas (082 821 6589)

**SAPAB2 Pentad** 2600\_2750

- **13-15 APRIL/ WEEKEND AWAY : BARBERTON BIRD CLUB's 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

**BARBERTON**

We'll go birding with John Bunning, longstanding WBC member and founder member of the Barberton Bird Club, in the 'gem of the Lowveld'. This earlier frontier town is nestled in the Makhonjwa hills and the ravines echo to the sounds of both *Purple-crested* and *Knysna Turacos*. The Barberton club will arrange an exciting programme which will be advised to you on booking. We will be staying at the Digger's Retreat Hotel, where camping is also available.

**Accommodation:** Rondawels with en-suite bathrooms: R450 pp for the weekend (sharing).

Camping: R200 pp for the weekend (shared site).

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Route:** Take the N4 Toll road to Machadodorp. Before Machado tollgate, turn right into Machadorp, then left at the church, drive through town and follow signs (R541) for Badplaas. Drive through scenic area for ± 60km and at R40 T-junction, turn left towards Barberton. After another 60km, turn left at R40 T-junction towards Nelspruit.

**Leader:** John Bunning (083 355 0823)

**WBC coordinator:** Murrie Slotar (083 367 6613)

**SABAP2 Pentad** 2545\_3100 (+ others)

- **15 APRIL / SUNDAY OUTING**

**SEGWATI RANCH**

A 650 ha game farm, situated just 20km from Hartebeespoort Dam, offers great views over the Magaliesberg valley.

**Route:** From Johannesburg: Follow the R512 past Lanseria. At the Broederstroom T-junction, just after crossing the Crocodile River, turn left. Travel for 4 km and you will see a sign towards Hartebeeshoek, turn left again and follow this road for +/-14 km and look out for a green gate (on the right hand side of the road).

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 07h30. Please bring along a picnic lunch.

**Leader:** Lia Steen (082 809 4476)

**SAPAB2 Pentad** 2600\_2750

- **22 APRIL / SUNDAY OUTING**

**BLESBOKSPRUIT RAMSAR SITE TOUR (IBA SA021)**

We will visit four sites and go birding at each. First up is the Grootvaly Wetland Reserve near Springs. We will proceed to a private residence on the spruit where a talk and discussion on the future and importance of the Blesbokspruit RAMSAR site will be led by Stan Madden. We will then go on to the Anglo property north of Marievale, and finally on to Marievale itself for a picnic lunch and birding.

**Route:** Take the N12 Witbank freeway towards Springs. Take exit 457 marked Springs/Etwatwa and turn right at the intersection and proceed south towards Springs for 6.7km. The entrance to the Reserve is the gate on the left side of the road and is signposted Grootvaly/Blesbokspruit (If you cross the Blesbokspruit past Bakerton you have gone too far).

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 07h00 at Grootvaly Wetland Reserve, main entrance. Bring morning tea and a picnic or braai for lunch.

**Leader:** Stan Madden (082 471 6050)

**SABAP2 Pentad** 2610\_2825

- **27 APRIL – 1 MAY/ LONG WEEKEND AWAY**

**GREATER KRUGER NATIONAL PARK CONSERVANCY**

This privately owned property is situated in a quiet section of the Umbabat Private Nature Reserve, just north east of Marulaneng. The Umbabat forms part of the Greater Kruger National Park Conservancy, the reserve is completely surrounded by the park and neighbouring Klaserie and Timbavati, between which there are no fences. This is a prime wilderness area (Big 5) and the bushveld supports a wide variety of mammal, reptile, bird and insect life.

**Accommodation: Nyarhi** which sleeps up to 23 persons accommodated in thatched chalets. There is a very large patio with a lapa and pool overlooking the bush. Nyarhi also has a large open-plan kitchen/dining/pub/entertainment area with a fenced boma. Nyarhi is serviced daily.

- Family Rondavel – one double and one single bed in one room, two singles in other room, separate ablutions adjacent to rondavel (basin, toilet, shower, bath)
- 2 x Doubles en-suite (basin, toilet, shower)
- 2 x Twins en-suite (basin, toilet, bath)
- Luxury Family Rondavel – king plus single bunks, en suite (basin, toilet, shower, bath)
- Loft – 6 singles, separate ablutions next to the Family Rondavel

Large terrace along front of Rondavel, plus lapa and pool, overlooking the bush

**Route:** : Take the N12 (N4) to Witbank, stay on it all the way to Belfast where you turn off north, onto the 540 to Dullstroom and continue to Lydenburg, where you join up with the 36, through Ohrigstad and the tunnel at the top of the Blyde River Canyon, before dropping down to the Lowveld. At Hoedspruit (last stop for fuel, groceries etc) turn south (right) on the 40. Take the first turn left (about 7kms – loads of signs to Eastgate Airport, Kapama, Klaserie etc). Stay on this road, pass through a security gate where you sign in and then about 15kms further, thru the APNR Control Gate into the Reserves (where you sign-in again and **pay an entrance fee of R120** per vehicle). Stay on this road (about 40kms, cross over 3 rivers) until it becomes a narrow gravel road and you will see Nyarhi signposted i.e. stay on the gravel road (bit of a wiggle right and then left) following the telephone lines, Nyarhi will be on left. If you reach Nyoka, on left, you have gone too far. Please be very aware of the speed limit: massive fines for speeding.

**\*Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267. Closing date: Thurs 12 April.

**Cost:** R1100 per person for the weekend (4 nights). Note this EXCLUDES R120 entrance fee and game drives which will be made available at R500 per day (shared cost).

**Leader:** Andy (camp owner)

**WBC Convenor:** Murrie Slotar (083 367 6613)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2405\_3120

- **1 MAY / TUESDAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY OUTING  
BEAULIEU BIRD SANCTUARY**

Beaulieu is a 16 ha facility complete with ablutions, lapa for picnics and 3 hides overlooking the Witkop dam. Please join us at this Jo'burg City Parks venue and bring along a picnic basket.

**Route:** North along Main Rd. Pass the Leeukop Prison main entrance on the right and proceed for ± 4.5 km, (Beaulieu College billboard on left as landmark). Turn left into Hawthorne Rd. Access through boom gate and T-junction with Pecheron Rd. The facility's entrance is 20 m from there.

**\*Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 08h30 at entrance

**Leader:** Val Odendaal (082 921 5019)

**SABAP2** Pentad 2555\_2800

- **6 MAY / SUNDAY OUTING  
SUIKERBOSRAND NATURE RESERVE (IBA SA022)**

Suikerbosrand Nature Reserve is an excellent Highveld reserve. Both grey and black colour forms of the *Mountain Wheatear* occur and the reserve in general is a great place to get to grips with many of the LBJ's.

**Route:** Take the N3 south and then the Nigel/Kliprivier off-ramp. Turn right on to the R550 towards Kliprivier. Follow for 6.6km. Turn left at the Suikerbosrand sign and travel for about 2km to the main entrance. Braai facilities are available. There is an entrance fee. (± 1 hour from Randburg)

**\*Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Meet:** 07h30 inside at Diepkloof picnic & parking area.

**Leader:** Lesley Cornish (082-806-6415)

**SAPAB2** Pentad 2625\_2810 +

- **12 MAY / SATURDAY OUTING & MEMBER'S BRAAI  
MODDERFONTEIN CONSERVATION PARK**

Please join us for a birding walk, followed by a leisurely braai. This area used to be part of the AECI factory grounds and still manages to yield an amazing number of species, this despite all the Gautrain development. *Long-crested Eagle* and *African Fish-Eagle* are two of the raptors often observed.

**Route:** Take the N3 South (towards Germiston). Take exit 119A onto R25 (Edenvale/Kempton Park). Go ¾'s around circle following signs for R25. At traffic light turn left on R25. Less than 1km further follow left fork into Modderfontein. Pass a traffic light and soon thereafter take the RIGHT fork – away from the garage and shops. Continue through a circle, over a bridge, round a bend, up a hill and then under the Gautrain bridge. At the next circle, turn left, and proceed to the large car park (below EWT office). This is opposite the entrance to the conservation area.

There is an entrance fee of R20 payable. Bring a picnic lunch/ braai to enjoy after the walk. Visitors must bring their own chairs, tables etc. A small braai pit exists but braai grids should be brought along.

**\*Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Cost:** R20 per head (please pay Lance on the day)  
**Meet:** 08h30 in the car park.  
**Leader:** Modderfontein guides: Pat van Nierop and others.  
**WBC Coordinator:** Lance Robinson (082 927 9785)  
**SABAP2 Pentad 2605\_2805**

• **18-20 MAY/ WEEKEND AWAY  
DINGILIZI GAME FARM, DINOKENG**

Dingilizi Game Farm (from the Zulu word for "in a circle", explaining the nature of the camp) is situated on a private game farm, 20 kilometers from Pretoria, in the Dinokeng (South) Game Reserve (just past Roodeplaat Dam, 1 hour from Johannesburg). A lot of game may be seen and there is prolific bird life.

**Accommodation:** The rustic bush camp comprises five 4-bed (bunks) huts, arranged in a circle around a large cozy boma and braai area. Bring your own bedding. Electricity is available. The bush kitchen is fully equipped with basic facilities, 2 fridges, 3 plate gas burner, 3 x potjiekos (cast iron) pots, kettle, cutlery and crockery for 20 persons. Neat ablution block outside with separate ladies and gents – each with two flush toilets, hand basins and two hot/cold showers.

**Camping:** Pitch your own tent and make use of the ablution block.

**Route:** From Johannesburg Travel on the N1 north towards Polokwane until you reach Exit 152 "Zambezi Drive / Cullinan / Wonderboom". Take the Zambezi exit and proceed through the Toll Gate Turn right at the traffic lights into Zambezi Drive. Drive under the highway and proceed through the traffic lights. Turn left onto the Moloto Road (R573), signage says to 'Kwamhlange'. Travel 18 km and turn left at sign: Wallmansthal. Travel 500 metres and turn right onto dirt road at sign: Dingilizi. Travel 3 kms to Dingilizi.

\***Book** your attendance on either [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za) or (011) 782-7267

**Cost:** Bush camp huts: R260 per person for the weekend (sharing). Camping R200 per person (shared site)

**Leader:** Peter Wilgenbus (071 884 4233)

**WBC Coordinator:** Jeanne Thomas (082 821 6589)

**SABAP2 Pentad 2530\_2820**

• **26/27MAY SASOL BIRDS AND BIRDING FAIR – JOHANNESBURG ZOO**

The fair is being organised by BirdLife South Africa. An exciting programme has been arranged with something for everyone; various exhibitions, live animal and bird displays, guided walks around the zoo, lectures, and photography and gardening-for-birds courses. Further details will be released closer to the time. Watch press for details.

**SABAP2 Atlasing**

**Calling all Atlasers and would be Atlasers!**

Andy Featherstone, Wits Bird Club SABAP2 coordinator has organised the following exclusive Atlas days that all members can participate in:

Saturday 18 February  
Saturday 24 March  
Saturday 21 April  
Saturday 5 May

Please e-mail [afeatherstone@mlc.co.za](mailto:afeatherstone@mlc.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 Andy and he will assist with the process of getting you started.

Remember Atlasing adds a whole new dimension to birding!

**GLOSSARY:**

**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 waterbird 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.

## NOTES

1. Always consult a map before leaving home or the AA for routes, toll gate costs and road works.
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. **PAYMENTS 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 fax deposit slip to (086 512 7696).  
Banking details as follows:  
BANK – NEDBANK CRESTA  
BRANCH CODE: 191-305  
ACCOUNT NO: 1913 257 789  
NAME OF ACCOUNT: WITS BIRD CLUB
  - b. Phone (011 782 7267), Fax (086 512 7696) or email ([info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za)) the office with your Credit Card number, expiry date and last three digits on the back of the card (Amex and Diners Club Cards not accepted);
  - c. Post your cheque to WBC, PO Box 641, Cresta 2118;
  - d. Bring your Cheque or cash to the WBC office between 09h00 and 15h00 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays. Please note NO CREDIT CARD FACILITY.

### **RULES REGARDING BOOKINGS AND PAYMENTS OF OUTINGS:**

- ✎ A booking for an outing or weekend away will 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.

### **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 covered)

### **FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONTACT:**

Lauraine Leigh, Wits Bird Club Office, Delta Park Environmental Centre

Office Hours: 09h00-15h00 Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays

PHONE: 011 782 7267 • FAX: 086 512 7696 • EMAIL: [info@wbc.co.za](mailto:info@wbc.co.za)

WEBSITE: [www.wbc.co.za](http://www.wbc.co.za)