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# Meridian Newsletter

## May 2012

E-mail contributions to next month's newsletter by the 25<sup>th</sup> to [newsletter@meridian.org.za](mailto:newsletter@meridian.org.za)  
You can update your details if need be at [membership@meridian.org.za](mailto:membership@meridian.org.za)

### Meridian Hike for Getaway Magazine - Sun 27 May 2012

Sam Greyvenstein




Walk along the Pipe Track, past Slangolie Ravine to go up Corridor Ravine. Explore a bit on top and have lunch. Down Kasteelspoort to the Pipe Track and back to Kloof Nek. Regular drink and tea stops. Rain won't cancel, might just do a shorter route. Wear bright clothes for good pictures and bring at least 2L water. 2Bb. Meet at 7.45 am at Kloof Nek Parking. End: ±3pm.

Attention Meridian Members: Please wear your Meridian T-shirt and I need committed members to help with the leading. Let me know ASAP if you could help.

Tel: 082 498 0361 (no sms's or call me backs please).

### **Come and enjoy a drink with a friend**

Bev is going to be visiting in town during June. So, if you want to say "hi", Pub Night is a good opportunity.

Thu 7 Jun	<b>Sam Greyvenstein</b> 082 498 0361	<b>Pub Night: Constantia Nek Restaurant</b> Constantia Nek Restaurant, the oldest restaurant in Cape Town, is situated on the summit of Constantia Nek pass. On a cold winter night it's lovely to enjoy drinks around the fireplace. Bev will be in Cape Town for a visit, make use of this opportunity to say 'hi' to her.	From 7pm. Tel no of restaurant: 021 794 5132.	
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## Cederberg Map Reports

Peter Slingsby

I have posted a sixth and seventh report-back on the proposed Cederberg hiking map. This one invites you to join an important discussion about what should and what should not be included on the map, especially what some have described as the "best gems" of the mountains. Please give this serious subject a moment of your time, bearing in mind that a map once published becomes a document for all time, and a record that will influence future maps as well.



Your comments are extremely welcome and will be acknowledged.

<http://cederbergmap.blogspot.com/>

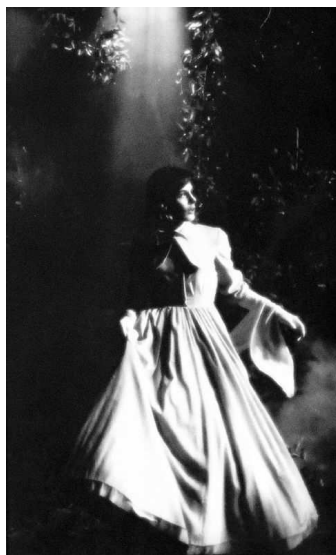
### The "Heks" of Hex River Valley

Eliza was a beautiful young woman whose stunning looks ensured that she had numerous suitors. However, she was also a spoilt and self-centred girl, and when she fell in love with Frans she was determined that he worked hard for her affections. In order to marry her he must pick her a red disa in the kloofs of the Matroosberg; the highest peak in South Africa's Hex Valley.



The red disa is a stunning bright red orchid, which is still spotted by lucky walkers in the Matroosberg. Spottings are rare though and the plant has a predilection for growing in inaccessible places, such as

ravines and steep mossy gorges. To pick a disa is near impossible without mountaineering equipment, and Frans, unprepared for the task, slipped and fell with a brilliant red disa in his hand.



On hearing that her young lover had died, Eliza was beside herself and became mentally unstable. Her parents kept her locked in her bedroom and if you had visited the old farmstead a couple of years ago, before it was demolished, you would have spotted Eliza 1868 scratched into the old windowsill.

One night, wearing just a nightgown, Eliza broke out of her prison and wandered to the foothills of the mountains, where Frans had walked previously. There she sat and sobbed, but the outcrop crumbled beneath her and she also fell to her death. Some say that her ghost wanders the Matroosberg on moonlit lights, crying and wringing her hands. In Afrikaans, they call her the Heks van Hex Rivier, or the witch of the Hex River.

# Happy Birthday



Day	Mem #	Name
1	286CD	Cathy Dean
1	329VV	Valerie Vella
3	230LP	Lindsay Polley
4	1006RL	Richard Lawson
6	317HE	Heidi Ernstzen
7	975DC	David Clover
8	272EB	Elizabeth Botha
9	426AL	Alison Louw
10	948SV	Shirley Viljoen
11	328MV	Marina Vayanos
12	828BF	Bob Foudy
13	211IV	Ian Volschenk
14	936GST	Githa Skea-Thuesen
15	446GT	Geoff Tinker
16	187HS	Helena Stoop
17	106012PM	Pat Masterson
21	784CmG	Colin McGilvray
21	298KW	Karen Watkins
21	329TM	Tobi Mlotshwa
22	473DE	Dwayne Engelbrecht
23	575SD	Stuart Dumville
24	346RSF	Robert Stuart-Fox
25	106014RW	Robyn Wilmink
25	233LvR	Lara van Rooyen
26	241GH	Glenda Hunoldt
27	097JP	John Petersen
28	785EB	Ernest Burki
28	144NV	Nina Voges
30	608AN	Andy Nold
30	459CD	Cornel Dahms
30	4443GM	Gert Matthee
30	572SW	Steve Wilson
30	221GC	Giulia Criscuola
31	343NVR	Nini van Rooyen
31	948SV	Shirley Viljoen