



SKCID APPROVED



We are delighted to announce that the Simon's Kloof City Improvement District (SKCID) has received official approval!

On April 16th, the Executive Mayor recommended the acceptance and implementation of the SKCID, and this was formalised by the City of Cape Town on April 25th, 2024.

This marks a significant milestone in our efforts to enhance the environment, fire management and security in our neighbourhood.

If you are interested in contributing to the SKCID and helping to shape the future of our community, please contact the SKCID Committee soonest. **YOUR INVOLVEMENT CAN MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE.**

Thank you for your continued support, we look forward to working together to build a better Simon's Kloof.

Read the periodic updates at : www.simonskloofcid.co.za

FIRST ISSUE

Hello
SIMON'S KLOOFERS!

We are delighted to bring you the inaugural issue of the SK Gazette. A place for Simon's Kloof news and updates. We hope you enjoy this quarterly newsletter as we share information and good news about our beautiful neighbourhood.

WHY NOT BECOME A CONTRIBUTOR TO THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER BY SHARING NEWS OR IMAGES VIA EMAIL TO:
simonskloofgazette@gmail.com

NEXT ISSUE OUT IN OCTOBER 2024

OUT AND ABOUT ...

20 July 2024



Steve Newman & Nish Pillay - Music In The Bay
Bonne Esperance, Seaforth
072 478 4120 / www.quicket.co.za

27 July 2024



Pre-Loved Fashion Show
Simon's Town Museum
076 304 2931

30/31 August 2024



Tribute to Fleetwood Mac
Café Roux, Noordhoek
www.caferoux.co.za/events

BABOON MATTERS



Together, we can reduce baboon activity and keep Simon's Kloof safe. With monitors possibly withdrawing on 1st December 2024, it's crucial for us all to take basic steps to prevent baboon raids.

Please follow these interim measures:

- **Baboon-Proof Bins:** Get clips from Aileen Turner for R150. Contact her at 072 827 5778.
- **Wheelie Bin Protocol:** Place bins on the pavement on Monday mornings.
- **Report Bin Pickers:** Report any bin pickers to ISS/IMINI security for removal from the area.

Ideas to brighten up your home this winter



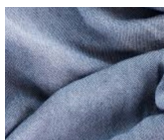
Bringing new, warm paint colours into your home is one way to beat the winter blues.



Houseplants are making a comeback. They are an effective way of creating a lively space, while adding some scent and colour.



Effective lighting solutions are an easy ways to brighten up the mood of your home. Experiment with directional lighting: both down and up lighters work well.



Change the scatter cushions in your living room. Introduce new patterns and fabrics to create interest.

4 FIREPROOFING TIPS THIS WINTER

Although winter is upon us, we need to keep the issue of fire prevention top of mind. Take this time to:

1



Upgrade to fire-resistant roofing, siding and decking, install ember-resistant vents.

2



Remove all tree limbs within 3m of the chimney or that overhang your house.

3



Trim trees and shrubs regularly. Keep grass mowed short.

4



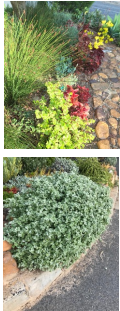
Number your house clearly at street level.

For more information, visit <https://www.fpasa.co.za>

Dermot's indigenous garden a welcoming entrance to Simon's Kloof



Dermot Magowan



At the entrance to Simon's Kloof is a beautifully curated garden that tells a story of dedication, resilience, and natural beauty. Under the tender care and vision of Dermot Magowan, which he has transformed into a vibrant sanctuary and a welcoming gateway to the neighbourhood. The story of the garden dates to the nineties, when Terence Murphy, initiated its creation and laid the foundation for what would become a cherished entrance for Simons Kloof. He installed an irrigation system and secured a generous provision of water from the Cape Town municipality, ensuring the garden's survival during the harshest seasons. Unfortunately, after Terence passed away, the garden fell into disrepair, becoming a shadow of its former self.

In 2015, Dermot Magowan, was approached to restore the garden to its former glory. With a steadfast heart, a creative eye and willing hand, Dermot, alongside dedicated gardeners Takesure and then Jospeh, embarked on a journey of rejuvenation. Together, they stripped the garden back to its bones, rebuilding the rockeries and preserving the iconic Bottle Brush trees, a symbol of Simon's Town.

Gardening under the formidable gum trees was no small feat. Roots of these giant trees always in search of water, and the acidic leaves they shed posed significant challenges. The poor quality of the soil added to the difficulty, making Dermot's task even more challenging.

However, his approach was both practical and inspired, turning to succulents; resilient plants well-suited to the harsh conditions. Despite their limited colour palette, with care and research, Dermot discovered varieties that had small flowers with intense colours to add to the garden.

The journey was not without its trials. The drought of 2018 tested the garden's endurance, but it also led to valuable discoveries. Plants like Helichrysum, Agapanthus, Restios, Gaura, and Bougainvillea proved to work well, thriving even under the gum trees and adding a delightful diversity to the landscape. As Dermot leaves Simon's Kloof after 8 years of unpaid management of the garden, we celebrate his contributions. His dedication has ensured that the garden remains a welcoming gateway to Simon's Kloof through rainy winters and the times of drought.

'Dermot, we thank you for your dedication and hard work and we wish you well in your new home and with everything going forward. A huge big round of applause from the Committee and the Simon's Kloof Community'

Do you have any ideas about how we can ensure that the garden remains a welcoming entrance to Simon's Kloof? Email us on simonskloofgazette@gmail.com and we will pass your ideas on.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEES

In SA, we are in a unique situation in that +/- 80% of our honeybees still live in the wild, unlike Europe where most of the bees are hived (99.9% of all bees in Germany live in hives and all the bees are managed and medicated). With most of our bees living in the wild means that SA has a healthy gene pool of wild bees.

We need to protect our bees in their wild habitats to ensure that this gene pool is not weakened in any way. Bees are a KEYSTONE SPECIES and are vital for biodiversity. The smallest and most diverse floral kingdom in the world is in the Cape. This floral kingdom is primarily pollinated by bees.

Honeybees and other species of bees pollinate 85% of the fynbos. Ujubee in Simon's Town does great work to educate humans and protect bees in pristine areas so that biodiversity can survive.
Read more at <https://ujubee.com>



Pics: Ujubee

STEAM TRAIN TO SIMON'S TOWN



GREAT WAY FOR FRIENDS TO VISIT FOR THE DAY!

Simon's Town is now a regular destination for the Ceres Steam Train offering a round trip from Cape Town to Simon's Town.

Next trip: Sun 21 July 2024
Cost: R 575 p/p
On board: 2 cash bars, coffees, hot drinks, food, snacks

Book at <https://www.ceresrail.co.za>

TAKE A WALK ... on the historical side



**PocketSights**

You can discover the historic mile of Simons Town, by taking a walking tour using your smart phone or tablet.

For more information visit **Pocketsights App**

Open the App and look for the **SIMONSTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY TOUR**.

ATTRACTING BIRDS TO YOUR SIMON'S KLOOF GARDEN

Planting the right plants can attract up to 50 - 100 species of birds. Here are some ideas that will help turn your garden into a bird sanctuary.

- Plant trees and shrubs with natural food sources and shelter for birds. Lure the jewel-like sugarbirds with plants such as Aloes, Erica's, Hibiscus, Cape Honeysuckle, Proteas, Fuchsias, Red Hot Pokers, or Watsonias.
- Plant bigger trees that provide place for birds to nest.
- Consider adding a bird bath, these are great additions to a garden. Place out of direct sun, so that the water stays cool and full for longer.

Read: "REWILD YOUR GARDEN " by Frances Tophill. It is an inspiring gardening book and a practical guide on how to attract both bees and birds to the garden. A beautifully illustrated book that will inspire all.



CAPE SUGARBIRD
[Promerops cafer]

One of 8 bird species endemic to the fynbos biome of the Western and Eastern Cape. The male is 34-44 cm long, and the shorter-tailed, shorter-billed, and paler breasted female is 25-29 cm long.

3

NUMBERS TO SAVE

BABOON HOTLINE:
071 588 6540

ELECTRICITY ISSUES:
0860 103 089

**CITY OF CAPE TOWN
RELATED
EMERGENCIES CALL:**
021 4807700 or
107 from a landline

NEXT ISSUE:
October 2024

CONTENT DEADLINE:
11 September 2024

SUBMIT CONTENT TO:
simonskloofgazette@
gmail.com