



SKCID UPDATE

FOURTH ISSUE

COMMUNITY MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Our recent Members Meeting on January 28th saw a fantastic turnout of 29 members!

We're pleased to announce the following:

Auditor Appointment: Auditors were successfully appointed.

Co-Secretary Appointment: A new Co-Secretary was appointed.

Director Reappointments: Gary, Lorraine, Nico, and Clair were reappointed as Directors . And welcome to Sergio Capellino, our newest Director!

Stay Connected & Get Involved

- Visit our website for updates and information.
- Join our WhatsApp groups: SK Social, SK Urgent, and SKCID News for real-time updates and community interaction.

Working with the City of Cape Town (COCT)

We are actively building relationships with the COCT and Sub Council 19 team. We have escalated the following critical issues:

- Victory Way Intersection Road Repair
- Clearance of 13 City Stands
- Fire Break and alien clearance in the unburnt section of Victory Way
- Open hole near Victory Reservoir

Be Active in Your Community

We extend our sincere gratitude to our active SK residents: Bydie Gotkins, Christie Singer, Mandy du Plessis, Margie Laurence, James Cregeen, and Carina Nel. Your vigilance is invaluable!

Please can all residents continue to:

- Report any issues you observe.
- Monitor vacant stands for signs of vagrants or structures and report them to the City immediately.
- Report all crime to SAPS, your security company, and SKCID (for reporting and trend analysis).

Welcoming the secret season

May is considered the "secret season" in Simon's Town. This is primarily due to the unique weather patterns experienced in this area compared to the rest of the Cape Peninsula. While the broader region often faces cold, wet, and windy conditions during late autumn and winter, Simon's Town enjoys milder and sunnier days. The town is north-facing and sheltered from the strong north-westerly winds by the Cape Peninsula mountain range. This makes it an ideal time to enjoy this beautiful neighbourhood.

Our previous 3 issues can be found at the dedicated tab on www.simonskloofcid.co.za



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

OUT AND ABOUT ...

7 April 2025

Simon's Town
where nature
and adventure
meet!

Responsible Tourism
Simon's Town Town Hall
www.simonstown.com

4 May 2025

Wedding Expo
Simon's Town Town Hall
www.simonstown.com

16 – 18 May 2025

Adventure Festival
Simon's Town
www.nyati-x.com/event-details/simons-town-adventure-festival

A GENTLE GIANT

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MANU CHOUDREE



The sudden passing of Manu Choudree, a gentle giant in the security industry, has sent shockwaves throughout the Southern Peninsula, and for us in Simon's Kloof, his presence will be deeply missed.

Manu was a friend of Simon's Kloof who worked tirelessly with his team to ensure that our neighbourhood has benefited from low security incidents.

Not surprisingly many kind words have been said about Manu since his passing:

'Without a doubt, Manu's approach to our communities safety has been a game changer. Always open to discussion and listening with genuine interest and concern, Manu always aimed to find us the best solutions to ensure Simon's Kloof's safety. He was a true friend and we are devastated about not having him around anymore. Our deepest sympathies to his wife and children' Gary Douglas: Chairman. Simon's Kloof CID

'His unwavering dedication made a lasting impact on the Fish Hoek valley and beyond. He was humble, kind, friendly, calm, and always willing to assist at a moment's notice, he was a true gentleman whose presence will be sorely missed. Mr Choudree's death has left a deep void in the fight for a safer community, but his legacy of service and commitment will not be forgotten' Andre Blom: Chairman of the Fish Hoek Community Police Forum

"He was more than just a community leader - he was a beacon of hope and a driving force behind bringing a community together. Through unwavering dedication and a deep love for Fish Hoek and surrounding communities Manu made our town safe, he built bridges to get things done and left an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of knowing him' Marc Yates : Former chairman of the Fish Hoek Business Improvement District

Manu died of a heart attack on Friday March 21. He was 60 years old.
He is survived by his wife, Annelien, and three children, Ruhan, Rose-Anne and Antonio.

NO, IT'S NOT YOUR DOORBELL...

IT'S THE JUBILEE SQUARE CLOCK



The clock, which is situated in the cupola * of the building on Jubilee Square commemorates the Diamond Jubilee of the accession of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 6th February 1952.

In 2012, STADCO repaired and updated the mechanism and in 2024 the chiming was introduced. The clock itself is independently driven from the chiming. Both are driven from hardware and a computer situated in the STADCO offices on Jubilee Square.

The clock chimes on the hour between 7am and 6pm daily.

* Cupola: rounded dome forming or adorning a roof or ceiling.

A GUIDE TO COMBATING INVASIVE ALIEN VEGETATION

by Mandy du Plessis

Understanding the importance of clearing alien vegetation is vital for preserving the biodiversity, water resources, and safety of Simon's Kloof. Through combined efforts of legislation, community action, and innovative projects, we can each individually play a role in mitigating the impact of invasive species and restore the health of our own natural environment. The risk of property destruction by fire involving alien vegetation is significantly higher compared to that of shrubland. Evidence also indicates a significant increase in fires globally, with fire management strategies now essential for survival in many cases.



Invasive alien Port Jackson willow and gum growing on Navy controlled land above Simon's Town following the Castle Rock fire which swept over the mountains in December 2023.



Western Cape Alien Vegetation has a variety of alien plant species that pose threats to its ecosystems, with the most problematic including Port Jackson, Black Wattle; Rooikrans; Pine Trees, Hakea; Eucalyptus or Gum Trees.

Alien vs Invasive Alien Vegetation?

Alien vegetation refers to plant species that are not native to a particular ecosystem and have been introduced, either intentionally or unintentionally, by human activities. Invasive alien vegetation goes a step further;

- these are alien species that spread aggressively, outcompeting native plants for resources and disrupting local ecosystems.
- Invasive alien plants can cause significant environmental, economic, and social impacts:
- are highly adaptable, vigorous growers that invade ecological areas
- have invaded 10 million hectares of land (size of KZN)
- use 3.3 billion cubic meters of water more than their indigenous counterparts
- threaten our rich biodiversity by replacing indigenous and endemic vegetation, resulting in a loss of insect species dependent on these plants and in turn a loss of birds, reptiles and mammals who feed on these insects
- exacerbate significantly the intensity of fires, flooding, erosion, siltation and other environmental concern

Please review the recent SK Fire Assessment on our SKCID website

Are you interested in joining a Simon's Kloof vegetation hacking group please email Mandy du Plessis mduplessis23@gmail.com

References

- Plant Me Instead - Western Cape Invasive Alien Plants
- GroundUp News: Navy ammunition depot in Simon's Town is a fire hazard
- Cape Nature. Alien Vegetation Management

NEW BABOON MANAGEMENT



Sarah Waries. CEO. Shark Spotters

CEO of Shark Spotters, Sarah Waries, emphasises a transparent and collaborative path forward, fostering a more positive era of baboon management for both the animals and the community.

Simon's Kloof residents can anticipate a smooth transition as Shark Spotters takes over baboon management.

Shark Spotters, with their extensive 21-year experience in human-wildlife conflict, will now assume control of baboon monitoring in Simon's Town. This transition ensures that all existing NCC staff, and any other incorporated groups, will operate under Shark Spotters' direct supervision, eliminating external influence. Shark Spotters are committed to improved community communication and Residents are encouraged to report any misconduct by "baboon flaggers" through the CoCT's C3 system.

This new management structure, under Shark Spotters, promises a more cohesive and effective approach to mitigating human-baboon conflicts in Simon's Town.

All existing staff will be retained, ensuring continuity and stability. With 20 years of experience in human-wildlife conflict resolution alongside the City of Cape Town, Shark Spotters brings a holistic approach that integrates research, education, and active management. They're committed to collaboration, aiming to reduce conflicts between both baboons and communities, and among community groups themselves.



For baboon-related incidents, contact the Baboon Hotline at **071 588 6540** or email **hello@baboons.org.za**. More information is available on **www.baboons.org.za**.

IT'S SUNDAY, AND THE PERSON NEXT DOOR IS RENOVATING

YOUR RIGHTS WHEN A NEIGHBOUR WANTS TO RENOVATE



Pic: Dreamstime

The Regulations issued in terms of section 17 (1) of the National Building Regulations and Building Standards Act 103 of 1977, prohibit the use of machinery, engines, apparatus, tools or contrivance which may cause a disturbance to the neighborhood:

- on a public holiday or Sunday;
- before 06:00 or after 17:00 on any Saturday; and
- before 06:00 or after 18:00 on any day other than those days above.

These are strict timelines which can be enforced by engaging the relevant law enforcement authorities.

However, your neighbour is within his rights to proceed with such works outside of these times if:

- the work is required for an emergency to protect life or property; or
- the work is being done on behalf of a public authority; or
- the local authority (for example, your City's Development Management Department) has granted its permission to proceed with the work.

If your neighbour is building at the early hours of the morning or on your (supposed-to-be) serene Sundays and he is not able to prove that any of the requisite exceptions to the regulations apply, certain remedies become available to you as an affected party. Such relief is based in terms of the relevant By-laws in our area, such as the City of Cape Town's Municipal Planning By-law and the Streets, Public Places and Prevention of Noise Nuisance By-law which is exclusively applicable to the City

TO REPORT A DISTURBANCE: the call centre is available 24/7, you can report noise to the Public Emergency Community Centre (PECC) on 107 from a landline or [021 480 7700](tel:0214807700) from a cell phone.

DOGGIE DOO AND LEADS



Keeping our community clean and safe is a shared responsibility. Simon's Kloof is officially a **DOG POOP FREE ZONE!** Including all flower beds, reservoirs, streets and pavements!!

Please remember to pick up after your dogs during walks. As Dog waste not only creates an unpleasant environment but also poses health risks. Ensure you always carry bags and properly dispose of them.

Additionally, for the safety of everyone, including your furry friends, please keep your dogs on leads while walking in public spaces.

Let's work together to maintain a beautiful and enjoyable Simon's Kloof for all.

**KEEP
CALM
and
WALK
YOUR
DOG ..
ON A
LEAD**

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NUMBERS TO SAVE

NOISE DISTURBANCE:

107 from a landline or
021 480 7700 from a cell

BABOON HOTLINE:

071 588 6540

NEXT ISSUE:
JULY 2025

CONTENT DEADLINE:
10 JUNE 2025

SUBMIT CONTENT TO:
simonskloofgazette@gmail.com