



SKCID UPDATE

Portfolio update: **ENVIRONMENT**



SEASONAL FOCUS: WINTER

During the winter season, the environment team focuses on routine common-garden maintenance to ensure that all shared green spaces remain healthy, safe, and visually appealing. This includes regular pruning, mulching, soil preparation, and the care of existing plants and landscaping.

In addition, significant effort is dedicated to weed eradication, where invasive and unwanted plant species are identified and removed to prevent their spread, protect indigenous vegetation, and promote healthy plant growth ahead of the spring season. These activities help maintain the overall quality, sustainability, and appearance of the common gardens throughout the colder months.

2 REQUESTS OF RESIDENTS PLEASE:

1. Cut back trees that hang over the public roads so that fire-trucks and other vehicles can drive past unhindered



2. Pick up a purple bag when you see it and add it to your weekly refuse collection



WINTER 2026

Hello SIMONS KLOOFER'S!

We trust you are all enjoying the winter season with it's welcome rains, crisp days and beautiful winter sun.

In this issue we share stories that include:

- an SK Environment & Security update
- baboons update
- the SK Kramat
- Port & Starboard whale duo
- new bespoke coffee shop called CHOIR, and
- CAN DO Simon's Town

'In the depth of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer'
Albert Camus

BECOME A CONTRIBUTOR TO THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER BY SHARING NEWS OR IMAGES VIA EMAIL TO: simonskloofgazette@gmail.com

NEXT ISSUE OUT IN OCTOBER 2026

WHAT'S ON :

17 Jul 2026



Charity Evening - Noordhoek

A Night of Music, Laughter & Giving
Tickets via Quicket

09 Aug 2026



The Simon's Bay Mile - Women's Day Swim

<https://www.entryninja.com/events/83966-womens-day-swim#event>

31 Jul & 28 Aug 2026



Coffee Rave Eat Surf Yoga

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1428418962368656>

SECURING THE KLOOF

Inside Mach 1's New Dedicated Neighbourhood Deployment

As Simon's Kloof steps into a new chapter of localised safety, our neighbourhood's key security player, Mach 1 Security, brings a deep-rooted, deeply personal connection to the Far South. We sat down with the leadership team at Mach 1 to talk about their history, their vision, and what residents can expect from their dedicated deployment on our streets.



Ruhan Choudree



Rob Goveia

A HOMEGROWN LEGACY

Founded in 2006 by the late Manu Choudree, Mach 1 Security was built on a clear vision: combining high-end technical systems with trusted, on-the-ground guarding. Following Manu's passing in March 2025, his son Ruhan stepped up to carry the family legacy forward. In December of last year, he was joined by a new co-owner, Rob Goveia, bringing 22 years of specialised security division experience to the helm. For the leadership team, taking over the safety of Simon's Kloof isn't just a corporate contract—it's a homecoming. 'Both Ruhan and I grew up in the Simon's Town and Glencairn area, and our families still live in these suburbs' they share. 'That local connection means we're not just running a business, we're protecting our own community. This is personal for us, we care about the safety of our neighbours as much as our own families.'

THE SIMONS KLOOF BLUEPRINT: TAILORED FOR OUR TERRAIN

Every resident knows that Simon's Kloof's geography is as beautiful as it is challenging. The winding roads, varied mountain terrain, and the seamless blend of private residential properties and open recreational spaces mean a generic security blueprint simply won't work.

To address these unique blind spots, Mach 1 launched a highly customised deployment strategy specifically for our neighbourhood:

- **Dedicated Night Patrols:** Launched on April 1st, a dedicated Simons Kloof patrol vehicle now operates actively every single night from 18:00 to 06:00
- **24/7 Seamless Backup:** This night vehicle is directly linked to Mach 1's overarching Simon's Town response unit, which operates 24 hours a day, ensuring instant, multi-vehicle backup if an incident occurs.

By balancing constant visibility during peak hours with a 24/7 rapid response structure, the team is able to keep reaction times incredibly sharp, reliable, and localized.

Not Just Uniforms: When asked about the officers choosing to work our beats, Mach 1 emphasises that professionalism, accountability, and community trust are the pillars to their business. Their officers are selected not only for their high-level training but for their ability to engage warmly with residents. Many of them already possess prior local knowledge, meaning they understand the unique rhythms of the area and can quickly spot when something is out of place. The goal is to foster an environment where security is based on genuine relationships. Residents should feel completely comfortable waving down a patrol vehicle, asking questions, or reporting minor anomalies to a trusted, familiar face.



HOW TO CONNECT: 24/7 RAPID RESPONSE

- For Emergencies & Immediate Voice Calls (24/7): Call the central control room directly on 021 782 0495.
- For Quick Alerts, Photos, & Updates: Use the dedicated WhatsApp line on 072 980 4335.

(Mach 1 Security is fully accredited: Co. Reg. No. 2011/038524/23 |
Vat No. 4210278430 | Psira Reg. No. 2484141)

A NEW BREW: CHOIR SPECIALITY COFFEE

WHAT'S
UP ...
**DOWN
TOWN**



Nestled in a heritage building at 94 St Georges Street, Choir Speciality Coffee is a sanctuary for craft and for contemplation, marrying high-end coffee with sensory charm. Espresso is pulled on a Kees van der Westen Mirage Idrocompressor - the only machine of it's kind in South Africa - and filter coffees are made on a Weber EG-1 and the BIRD, again unavailable anywhere else. But this technical sophistication is in service of the contemplative, and along with Choir's clerestory windows, bespoke tableware, and carefully chosen music, it provides a quiet richness tuned to help you slip away from the day. Coffee's, pastries and cigars are on offer.

CHOIR is owned and managed by Arlen Culwick, a Simon's Town resident.

Arlen operating the Kees van der Westen Mirage Idrocompressor



BABOON MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Shark Spotters has partnered with the Cape Peninsula Baboon Management Joint Task Team (CPBMJTT) consisting of representatives from the City of Cape Town, SANParks, and CapeNature, for the strategic implementation of the Cape Peninsula Baboon Strategic Management Plan.



The Cape Baboon Partnership is doing an excellent job of managing baboon movements and reducing conflict between baboons and communities. Their success is built on dedicated rangers who are on the ground every day, actively monitoring troops, updating teams as baboons move, and effectively guiding them back onto the mountain when necessary. Strong communication with community groups, the expertise of experienced rangers, and the rapid response of field managers all contribute to positive outcomes.

The Partnership also provides valuable training and encourages residents to report sightings, pin locations, keep escape routes open when baboons enter homes, and keep dogs away, helping people and baboons coexist more safely.

Baboon Hotline: 071 588 6540

The story of the SIMON'S KLOOF KRAMAT

Tucked away right at the entrance to Dolphin Way lies a quiet, forested clearing that has held an aura of sacred tranquillity for over two centuries. This is the Simons Kloof Kramat - the final resting place of two revered holy men, Tuan Ismail Dea Malela and his father, Tuan Dea Koasa. For generations, their identity remained shrouded in local mystery. Today, this sanctuary stands not only as an anchor of our neighbourhood's history, but as an officially declared National Heritage Site.



Royalty in Exile

Tuan Ismail Dea Malela and his father Tuan Dea Koasa were part of the Sumbawanese royal family who fiercely opposed Dutch oppression. Stripped of their titles and exiled to the Cape, they were eventually brought to Simon's Town. Though isolated from their homeland, they brought with them an unshakeable spiritual strength. They settled on the heavily forested mountain slopes right where Simons Kloof stands today, quietly living out their lives as spiritual guides and "Imams" to the local, diverse community of early Simon's Town.

The Mystery of the Sacred Stream

For well over a hundred years, locals knew that two holy figures, widely revered as Auliyah (friends of God) lay buried in the forest clearing above Goede Gift. Visitors from all over the Cape came to pay their respects, drawn by the profound stillness of the site, which is naturally heightened by a clean mountain stream running directly alongside the graves down into the valley. It wasn't until the 20th century that a sacred kitaab (a religious book written in ancient Sumbawanese), which had been carefully passed down through local generations, was finally translated. The text confirmed exactly who they were, linking the Simons Kloof graves directly back to the royal bloodline of Indonesia.

Part of the 'Circle of Tombs'

Today, our Dolphin Way Kramat is recognized as a vital link in the historic 'Circle of Tombs'—a sacred ring of shrines spanning the Cape Peninsula. According to deep-rooted Cape tradition, this circle creates a protective spiritual boundary around the Cape, shielding its people from harm and natural disasters.

As part of the Simon's Kloof Community Improvement District (SKCID) plan, our community continues to treasure its rich cultural diversity and close-to-nature character. The Dolphin Way Kramat is the living embodiment of that heritage.

The next time you walk up past the end of the road or hear the stream trickling down the mountain, take a moment to appreciate the hidden kings and spiritual guardians who found their final sanctuary right here in our valley.

Why the Green, Yellow, and White Drapes (Kiswah)?

When you look inside the Dolphin Way Kramat, you will see the graves covered in striking silk cloths. This draping is a profound sign of respect, honour, and love for the Auliyah (the friends of God) resting there.

Each colour used in the drapes carries a highly specific meaning in Cape Islamic tradition:

Green: (The Primary Colour): Green is universally recognised as the colour of Islam. In the Quran, it is described as the colour of the garments and silk robes worn by the dwellers of Paradise. It symbolises life, renewal, and spiritual peace.

Yellow/Gold: Historically in Southeast Asia (where Tuan Ismail Dea Malela and his father were from), yellow was the strict royal colour reserved exclusively for kings, sultans, and nobility. Because these two holy men were of royal Indonesian descent, the yellow drapes directly honour their royal lineage.

White: Symbolizes spiritual purity, peace, and light (Noor).

These drapes are not permanent. Every year, local families, caretakers, and the Cape Mazaar Society participate in a ritual where the old cloths are removed, and the graves are re-draped with fresh, beautifully scented silk.

This act of changing the cloths is considered a form of physical prayer and a way for the community to show gratitude to the historical figures who brought peace and spiritual guidance to the shores of Simon's Town centuries ago

THINGS TO NOTE WHEN VISITING ANY KRAMAT:

- Remove shoes
- Be Quiet
- No Dogs
- Switch off Mobile Devices
- Do not touch or disturb the silk fabric (it is sacred)

CAPE KRAMAT TOURS:

www.capemazaarsociety.com/tours.php

PORT & STARBOARD: THE PENINSULA DUO



© Dean Muller
South Peninsula Whale Watchers
Cape Town FACEBOOK

PORT and STARBOARD are a famous pair of adult male orcas known for hunting great white sharks along the South African coast. They are like family to Southern Peninsula residents with many regular sightings during wale season.

ABOUT PORT & STARBOARD:

The Collapsed Fins: They are easily identified by their rare, distinct collapsed dorsal fins. Port's fin leans left and Starboard's leans right.

The Hunt: They are infamous for their specialised hunting strategy: flipping great white sharks to consume only their nutrient-rich livers.

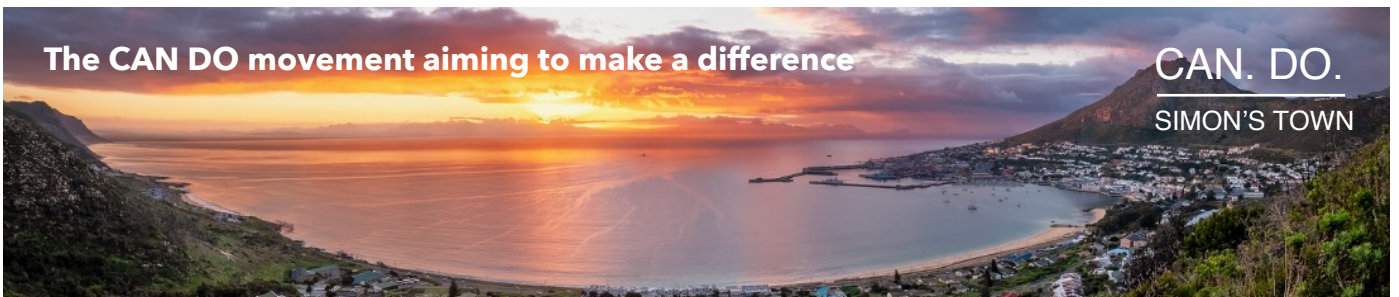
Tracking Them: While they cover huge territories ranging from Gansbaai to False Bay, they are incredibly fast and unpredictable.

Recent Behaviour: Sightings in the area show they occasionally hunt other marine life, and sometimes even split up, being spotted in different bays days apart.

Whale season in Simon's Town peaks from June to November, when Southern Right, Bryde's, and Humpback whales migrate into the sheltered waters of False Bay.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_and_Starboard_\(orcas\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Port_and_Starboard_(orcas))

MASSIVE SMALL ... / CHANGE



The CAN DO movement aiming to make a difference

CAN. DO.
SIMON'S TOWN

In November 2024 a handful of Simon's Town residents got together with the aim of making a real change to Simon's Town. Their belief being that with just one small step at a time, together, they could make a real difference. The CAN DO group work on projects primarily across 4 categories:

BUILDINGS & INFRASTRUCTURE	PUBLIC ART	EVENTS & FESTIVALS	CLEAN SIMON'S TOWN
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heritage Re-purpose Repair & maintenance Architecture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tell stories History Showcase talent Insta moments Beautify 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grow existing Create new Attract visitors Innovation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Station Beaches Gardens Flora Waters

Without the normal bureaucratic restrictions, the movement brings workable ideas to the table, and then finds resources and permissions to fast track the change. This CAN DO attitude, makes all the difference.

To join CAN DO, contact Neil [082 883 2070] or Gary [072 926 4016]

YOU COULD JOIN AN EXISTING PROJECT, OR INITIATE ONE YOURSELF

THE SK WEEKEND BREAK INSPIRATION

SANPARKS ABRAHAMSKRAAL COTTAGE - WEST COAST NATIONAL PARK

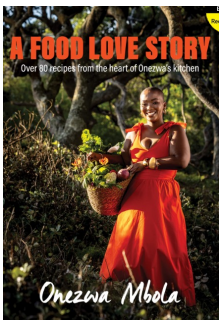


Book via: LekkeSlaap, SANParks

Abrahamskraal Cottage is a self-catering cottage situated near to the Abrahamskraal waterhole. The cottage can accommodate up to 6 guests and contains 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, and an open-plan kitchen, dining and living area. The first bedroom contains a double bed and an en suite. The second bedroom contains 2 single beds, 2 pull-out beds and an en suite. The kitchen is equipped with a gas stove, and a gas fridge-freezer. Electricity in the house is provided by solar energy. There are no points or plugs for electric equipment. There is a fireplace in the living area to utilize as a braai or fireplace

SANParks Abrahamskraal Cottage is located in the West Coast National Park. A short drive out of Cape Town and one happens across the jewel that is the West Coast National Park. Against the backdrop of the azure blue lagoon, white dunes, rare fynbos, green wetlands and unbounded waves, there is much to experience. A paradise for hikers, cyclists and mountain bikers, birders and nature-lovers alike, come to West Coast National Park and explore, discover and relax.

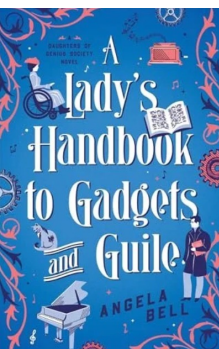
THE SK BOOK NOOK



A FOOD LOVE STORY - Onezwa Mbole [2026]

'She has built a career by returning to what matters most'
: Glamour South Africa

Tracing her culinary journey, from her mother's kitchen in her Eastern Cape seaside village, to destinations around the world, and back home again, Onezwa's wholesome recipes inspire her million+ social-media followers as well as newcomers to explore the joys of cooking.



A LADY'S HANDBOOK TO GADGETS AND GUILLE - Angela Bell [2026]

'A whimsical delight! I loved this story! I love how this author writes her own fun personality into her stories!': GoodReads

Ambulatory wheelchair user Margaret Kingsley secretly crafts gadgets for the Daughters of Genius Society, a covert team of lady inspectors disguised as harmless bluestocking spinsters. While her fellow inspectors gallivant about London solving crimes, Margaret has been perfectly content assisting from the sidelines - until her expertise is needed ...

NUMBERS TO SAVE

WATER & SEWER ISSUES:

0860 103 089 [option 2]

BLOCKED STORMWATER DRAINS & POTHoles:

0860 103 089

NEXT ISSUE:
October 2026

CONTENT DEADLINE:
9 September 2026

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