

JUNE 2023



NEWSLETTER



Greeting from the Chair

It has been a while since our last STCA newsletter.

This one heralds a new communication push that will now be complimented by our new website and active Facebook page. We intend to share local community news and ideas as well as updates on our stakeholder engagement with the City, and other service providers.

I feel challenged by our modest membership growth (208 presently) in my four years tenure as chairman. Do the fees (R130pa) put people off? Are our services or communication less than compelling or effective? Does Glencairn identify with Simon's Town? Are many residents content to 'freeload' and let others volunteer? If "many hands make light work" what can the STCA EXCO innovatively do to encourage civic participation in rewarding and doable activities?

Our STCA EXCO goal is to get you to refine and share our priorities and to recruit your willing input to add incrementally to the conservation and improvement of our shared physical and aesthetic space. Our vision must be focused and shared and inputs willingly given, not disputatious and draining obligations.

We can surely agree on a clean and tidy living space. We can serve that goal locally, and scale up our efforts from our villages to our whole civic space. This applies to our garden verges, beaches, coastline, rivers, fire threats, alien invasive plants, wildlife protection, and our aesthetic landscape in general. The STCA EXCO wants to guide, encourage, and facilitate voluntary community action to maintain and improve the space we live, work, and play in. We would work to ensure that our local efforts complement our City's service provision and do not substitute what the City must do.

I hope that the seeds of these good intentions will be realised in the months and year ahead.

Stay warm, dry, and hopeful.

SIMON METCALFE



Introducing our new Honorary Secretary.

Cameron Gumbrill has recently assumed the role of Honorary Secretary of the STCA.

Cameron is an Attorney with a longstanding relationship with Simon's Town having grown up here.

Should members wish to contact him, his email address is
cameron.stca@gmail.com

WE HAVE A NEW WEBSITE

SIMONSTOWNCIVICASSOCIATION.CO.ZA

The Simon's Town Civic Association is pleased to announce the launch of its new website. The site is a work in progress and members are encouraged to keep an eye on the website for new developments and news. We would love your feedback on the new website.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the STCA is stable at present, but members are kindly requested to encourage their neighbours to join the association. The more members we have, the more of a positive impact we can make in our beautiful town. The membership of the association currently sits at only 208 households, the Association aims to significantly increase this number.

NEW BIN PROJECT FOR SIMON'S TOWN

The City of Cape Town has deployed a new bin design as a pilot project in Simon's Town. It is hoped that the new design will balance the need for waste management with the need to keep baboons from obtaining easy access to food waste. Simon's Town is one of the baboon areas chosen to pilot these new city bins, the distinctive red bins that you may have seen along the Main Road, and on Jubilee Square. The Green group was able to identify the most useful placements for the new bins. The bins are taller and slimmer by design, so take up far less space on the pavements than the green bins that they have replaced. The opening does not allow you to be able to reach inside the bin, and they are secured with a metal ribbon to Municipal poles, so cannot be toppled over. The top can however be easily opened and might be left open by bin pickers, so if you're passing a bin with its lid open, please secure it, by snapping it closed, and turning the rubber lever on the side. We will have them for a month or two, in order for the City to assess their effectiveness. Please let us know what you think by emailing stcamail@gmail.com.

The City of Cape Town's Solid Waste department has also provided us with 2 new Super Twin Bins (at SAMTRA bus stop and the Magistrates court/Police station).

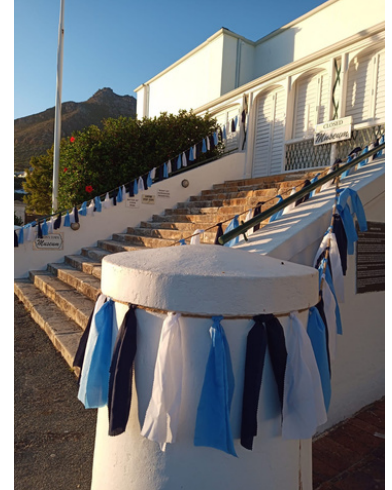
Harbour Bay Mall recently opened their recycling drop off area, but unfortunately the signage was damaged in a storm. This will now be mounted on the wall, but the drop off area is still serviced regularly by Happy Valley, so please do use it next time you're shopping. They will soon be adding a Glass Bank to this section. Glass takes up nearly 30% of the volume of waste taken to landfill, and it would help tremendously if we could remove all glass from our waste. Thanks to STADCO and the Green Group who arranged the Glass Banks, which can be located at Cole point, opposite 7 seas, next door to FBYC.

NADIMA SMITH



MUSEUM NEWS

Established by a group of enthusiastic volunteers in 1977, including our Historical society, Simon's Town Museum is a community museum which receives support from the Government of the Western Cape. The museum is led by a Board of Trustees and situated in The Residency, a historical building erected by Joachim van Plettenberg in 1777, to serve as the winter residency of the Dutch East India Company governor at the Cape of Good Hope, when on official business at Simon's Bay. The building holds artefacts and documents of immense value of colonial and pre-colonial times.



The museum is presently facing an intersection and is navigating its way forwards. Its funding from Western Cape is shrinking dramatically and to avoid becoming a diminished satellite service it needs a community-based support system. The Museum is reaching out to all community groups willing to help secure its future as a key local institution.

Many challenges are involved:

- (1) To negotiate a collaborative province / Simon's Town agreement;
- (2) Generate sufficient local commitment (human, social, and financial capital) to create a positive partnership that works;
- (3) Design and implement a strategic plan going forwards that ensures the museum is a dynamic part of our culture in future.

All residents are encouraged to engage with museum (Cathy Salter-Jensen and Tazneem Wentzel) on the many possible volunteer roles: fundraising, day-to-day managing, legal, research, outreach, cultural and environmental landscape, group activities, special interest groups (history, environment, collections, outreach, exhibitions).

Resources are available to do this and just need to be brought together in the right way.

We want to hear from you!

The Executive Committee will shortly be embarking on a strategic planning session to define its main aims for the medium to long term. Feedback from the members and residents will assist the committee in making decisions about which projects to tackle and what residents see as pressing issues in the town. Please click on the link below and complete our survey. Tell us what you think the association should be working on and provide us with some much needed feedback.

[COMPLETE SURVEY HERE](#)

CITY OF CAPE TOWN SERVICE REQUEST PORTAL UPGRADE

The City of Cape Town recently upgraded its Service Request Portal on its website to provide better functionality and more accurate location reporting. The portal now allows residents to dispute closed requests where they are of the view that the work remains outstanding, despite the service request being closed. It is expected that the improved functionality will have a positive impact on service delivery across the metro.

UPDATE FROM THE STCA BABOON DIALOGUE TEAM

The STCA Baboon Dialogue team has made great strides in recent months, forming a strong alliance with both the civics / resident associations in Scarborough, Kommetjie, Oude Weg & Capri and Constantia, and the City Councillors responsible for the baboon-affected areas. We believe this can form the basis of an effective platform for baboon-affected residents of the South Peninsula to engage constructively and collaboratively with the newly-formed Joint Task Team (JTT) which comprises of The City, SAN Parks & Cape Nature.

The JTT has told us that it is still working to complete the revised draft of its Baboon Strategic Management Plan (BSMP), following a huge amount of resident comment on the first draft. Meanwhile, on 15th June 2023 the City finalised the extension of NCC's contract for another 18 months, giving everyone some breathing space while the JTT's new strategy comes into being and gets implemented. This establishment of the JTT and the finalising of its new BSMP are quite momentous changes and the STCA team will be keeping us all abreast of developments in the coming months.

PETER WILLIS - CONVERSATIONS THAT COUNT

THE DAWOOD BUILDING

Cameron has relentlessly been following up with the various departments of the City of Cape Town with regard to the Dawood Building and the apparent structural issues which may pose a hazard to the public as well as the closure of Alfred Lane. The City of Cape Town's Problem Buildings Unit has been in contact with employees of the company that owns the building who have assured the City that they intend to renovate the building. The Development Management Department is currently investigating possible High Court Action against the owner of the building due to the continued deterioration of the structure of the building. We will keep you posted!

GLENCAIRN BEACH REHABILITATION PROJECT



The Glencairn Beach Rehabilitation Project is progressing well with most of the preliminary work having been completed. This next phase of the project will see the rehabilitation of the dune vegetation to aid in the management of wind-blown sand.

COMMUNITY POLICE FORUM (CPF)

The CPF has also had a recent re-boot and now has a new chairman, Andrew Rogers, and Deputy Chairperson, Andre Adonis. The CPF monthly meetings are operational again with the full participation of our Councillor, SAPS, Military Police, TMNP and other City Law Enforcement agencies (Law Enforcement, Traffic, Metro). The CPF has engaged in the challenge of managing the behaviour of some individuals that upsets the perception of our Main Road being a tidy and safe space.



While the STBA has engaged a security guard to patrol the Main Road, the CPF has engaged with My Father's House, SAPS, and the Blue Vest car guard project. The Blue Vest project is in the process of being re-structured to ensure participants are suitable, properly briefed, coordinated and in communication with SAPS and the new security guard as and when necessary. Ideally, a 'fit for purpose' car guard system could be the basis for coordinating rapid back up as and when needed. The CPF is also paying close attention to drug dealing activities in our area and developing a better information base and risk analysis.

FROM THE TREASURER'S DESK

FINANCIAL SUMMARY AT 17 JUNE 2023

Cash at Bank
R148,872

Excess Income over Costs
R19,282

Number of Subs paid
208

BANKING DETAILS

Banking Details: Standard Bank
Fish Hoek (Branch Code 036009)
Account number 073815209

STCA Membership Ref:
Initials/Surname/Cell no
Payment can be made by EFT or
cash at STADCO Office on
Jubilee Square.

SIMON'S TOWN BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (STBA)

The STBA has also had a reboot. with a new invigorated board led by Jenny Rogers. Membership has grown to over 50 and their membership fees have boosted the STBA budget, which has been directed to investing in a Main Road security guard system. The system is implemented by Mach 1 (Manu Choudree) and after a trial of one month, granted free by Mach 1, the STBA is now challenged to fundraise R 16,500 a month to keep going. ISS Scarborough is also assisting and provides backup on call to all businesses they are contracted with. The STCA supports this activity and has granted R 2,000 a month for six months (Until December), from its reserves. STBA has also committed R 2,000pm and is appealing to its members and residents in general for support. Residents willing to do so can contribute through the STBA or the STCA (who will ring fence the funds). STCA liaises closely with their plans and projects. Email: simonstownba@gmail.com



Visiting the historical sea-side village of Simon's Town?
Go to our town's Official Website or
scan our QR code for more information on:

Activities | Restaurants | Accommodation | Tours & transport
Events | History | Marine Big 5 & Hope Spot | Property

WWW.SIMONSTOWN.COM provides a one-stop, comprehensive, up-to-date information platform for visitors and residents of Simon's Town.



SIMONSTOWN.COM aims to provide a one-stop, comprehensive, up-to-date info platform for visitors to the greater Simon's Town area via our efficient, highly optimised website that showcases all sectors of local business as well as covering places of interest, events, news and more.

Anyone who operates a business based within the Simon's Town precinct is invited to take advantage of this affordable opportunity to be seen on the site, as well as receive continuous promotion via our affiliated social media networks. Our annual listing fee is R500.

SIMONSTOWN.COM is a not-for-profit website funded entirely by its subscribers and is run by a team of resident volunteers who are passionate about our town.

Contact – info@simonstown.com

Esther – 082 450 4661



FOLLOW US:
STCA - SIMON'S TOWN CIVIC ASSOCIATION

DID YOU KNOW?

STCA PROPERTY PORTFOLIO RESPONSIBILITIES: Debbie McComb

Debbie is tasked with the property portfolio. Her responsibilities and duties are as follows:

- Passing comments of No Objection/ Objection to the Planning Department of the COCT in issues relating to:
- Departures on building plans,
- Any alterations or additions to a property in the Heritage Protection Overlay Zone (HPOZ);
- New Liquor licence applications
- Application of extension of operating hours for an existing liquor licence.
- Sub-divisions of properties

Far South Peninsula Community Forum

This forum represents the joint voice of several civic, community and environmental member organizations in the Far South Peninsula. These areas are: Clovelly, Fish Hoek, Imhoffs Gift, Kommetjie, Misty Cliffs, Noordhoek, Ocean View, Scarborough, Simon's Town, Smitswinkel Bay, Sunnydale, Sun Valley. Meetings are held quarterly.

WARD 61

The purpose of the wards is to ensure that each area is represented by a councillor who can raise issues affecting the community and ensure that the municipality responds to these issues. The ward committees are made up of residents who are elected by their communities to represent them and work with their ward councillors to identify and address local issues. Ward committees are direct links between communities and the City council. Priority issues are taken to the Subcouncil for consideration. Our ward councillor is Simon Liell-Cock

SUBCOUNCIL 19

Subcouncil 19 consists of 4 Wards and covers an area that includes, Cape Point, Muizenberg, Fish Hoek, Kommetjie, Ocean View, Simon's Town, Seawinds, Noordhoek and Sunnydale. Each financial year, each ward is allocated a budget for special projects.. Ward committees submit project plans to Subcouncil for approval. The Subcouncil reviews the plans and submits it to Council for final approval.

