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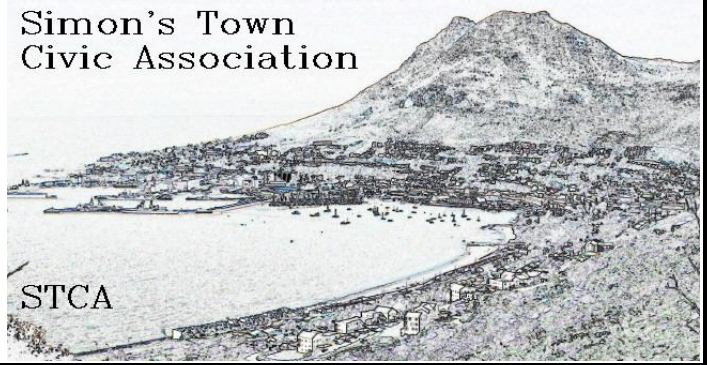
Serving Simon's Town and Glencairn

STCA NEWSLETTER

July 2012

Compiled by Lesley Shackleton

Simon's Town
Civic Association



Navy News

The Simon's Town community is going to miss R Adm Koos Louw who is retiring as Fleet Officer Command, Simon's Town Naval Base on 31 July. Sadly he will be leaving Simon's Town. R Adm Louw was always deeply aware of the role of the Navy could play in Simon's Town, and of the significance of our Naval heritage. We wish him well in his retirement.

During most of July the Royal Fleet Auxiliary (RFA) Gold Rover, a British Ship, will be in Simon's Town. The vessel, with 54 crew, is on an informal visit to the SA Navy to further cement friendly relations between the two navies. The Gold Rover is a replenishment ship.

Living in Simon's Town

The SA Navy and the Dockyard are an integral part of Simon's Town, contributing to its maritime character and economy. Residents choosing to live here do so in full knowledge of their presence. As part of this there is an acceptance that on occasion the traffic flow is affected, large guns are fired as part of training exercises, and noise can emanate from the dock area. The Navy has informed us that the noise recently noted by some residents is due the air-conditioning exhaust from a visiting vessel. This air-conditioning is essential for the crew's health and equipment operation, and cannot be switched off. Residents' patience is requested. As part of the bigger picture we are informed that this ship is spending tens of thousands of rand locally on repairs and rations.

STCA General Meeting August

All are encouraged to come to the General Meeting which will take place towards the end of August in the Phoenix Hall, Glencairn. In light of the security and law enforcement concerns we are hoping to get Alderman JP Smith, Mayoral Committee Member for Safety and Security to talk at the meeting. We also hope to introduce the new baboon management contractor, Dr Philip Richardson. Once we have confirmation of the arrangements notices with full details will be sent out.

"Spring Clean" Sale

The STCA and Simon's Town Business Association are planning a community 'car-boot' sale on Jubilee Square on Sunday 12 August from 10am to 1pm. Participation is open to all, individuals (artists, craftspeople and those who want to clear out their garages/homes) and organisations, on a first come first served basis. Participants should reserve a space by contacting Christine Tranter ctrtr@webafrica.org.za or 021 786 1211. Participants will be required to pay a fee of R30 for the 3 hours (payable at the STADCO Parking Office on Jubilee Square). The idea is to liven up the Town during these cold winter months and to make use of Jubilee Square. Individuals can also bring their own tables and set up stalls around the Square. We hope organisations like Friends of the Library, the CPF, local charities and our Churches will take advantage of this opportunity. We encourage all Simon's Town and Glencairn residents and their friends and family to come and join the fun, and see what is on offer. Should it pour with rain, the Spring-Clean Sale will be postponed for a week.

A Local Movie Initiative

A group of friends in Kalk Bay who enjoy good movies have established CineSouth. Support from South Peninsula locals will see them screening interesting and thought provoking movies on a regular basis. The genres they plan to screen include: noir, cult, classic, indie and arthouse, with the odd documentary – probably environmental. CineSouth has partnered with Cinemuse which has experience running similar initiatives in the Winelands and also has the facilities to take credit card bookings. For further information CineSouth can be contacted at cinesouth.capetown@gmail.com.

Waste and Recycling

The City informs us that the Solid Waste Removal charge will increase by 7.06% to R85.21 per wheelie bin for the 2012/13 Financial Year. The Glencairn – Simon's Town area is fortunate to have an effective recycling system operational and all are encouraged to use this responsibly to cut down on the waste that goes into Cape Town's fast-filling land-fill sites. All containers should clean be before putting them into the recycling bag. Although information about what can be recycled can be found at <http://www.capetown.gov.za/en/Solidwaste2/Pages/ReduceReuseRecycle.aspx>, and on the Scenic South web page http://www.scenicouth.co.za/2012/06/false-bay-recycling-regains-contract-for-the-south-peninsula/?utm_source=Scenic+South+List&utm_campaign=84b522e1e2-Scenic+South%3A+Caption+competition&utm_medium=email there is still confusion, and the STCA plans to find out exactly what can be handled down here in the South. It is worth noting that some of the most common forms of packaging which cannot be recycled include polystyrene trays, chip and biscuit packets, some yoghurt containers and mixed plastic bags such as those for dog and cat food pellets.

A Vision for Miller's Point

At the public meeting held at the end of May concern was expressed that the City have been treating Miller's Point as "just another amenity", "just another camp site" that they must "tidy up". There was a call for Miller's Point to become a declared Nature Park or Conservation Area, accessible to all for recreational and education purposes. Miller's Point is part of the World Heritage Site Buffer Zone and as such is subject to both international and South African National legislation. There was a unanimous call to the City at the meeting to recognise that Miller's Point is a significant asset, and to invest sufficient funds to develop its unique potential. In doing this it is essential that they consult widely about its future. We hope to follow this up with a meeting/workshop involving the key Mayo Members responsible for Community Services and for Tourism.

General Valuation 2012

1 July 2012 has been set as the date properties will be valued for the General Valuation 2012. The final valuation roll will be certified by the Municipal Valuer and submitted to the City Manager on 31 January 2013. The roll will be open for inspection and lodging of objections during March and April 2013. The City states: "*In accordance with the mass appraisal principles used by the City, the size, sales figures and physical attributes of properties will be taken into account when determining the rateable value of a property*". In theory the accuracy of the City's property valuations should improve each year – provided we check what they do and lodge objections where necessary. The STCA encourages all property owners to collect data about recent sales in their area so as to be able to check the forthcoming valuation of their property.

Future Newsletters

Lesley Shackleton, who has been compiling the STCA Newsletter for some 8 years now, has for several years been looking for a replacement to bring in new ideas and perspectives. We have also increasingly become aware of the need for the various civil organisations in Simon's Town and Glencairn to work more closely together. Thus when Margaret Silk of the Simon's Town Business Association proposed putting out a joint, new-look newsletter/communication incorporating brief news items from, and affecting, a wide variety of organisations active in the area, the STCA was strongly supportive. Margaret proposes to make this available to all residents in Simon's Town / Glencairn – either electronically to those who wish to receive it, or in hardcopy which can be collected from key points. Consequently this is likely to be the last STCA Newsletter in the current format.

Baboon Update

The City of Cape Town has appointed 'Human Wildlife Solutions', a company run by Dr Philip Richardson, to keep humans and baboons on the Peninsula separate. Because of delays in the City's tendering process, Human Wildlife Solutions will only be taking over at 1 August. They are currently interviewing ex-NCC monitors with a view to future employment but, we understand, they hope to implement a more technology-focused approach to separating humans and baboons. Until

the new operator starts, the Baboon Conservation Authorities, with the assistance of the UCT Baboon Research Unit, have implemented an interim monitoring programme utilising ex-NCC monitors. Residents should be aware that their response team makes use of paintball guns in certain high conflict areas. The Baboon Hotline number remains operational: **071 588 6540**.

Citizen of the Year

Each year residents and ratepayers of the greater Simon's Town area are invited to nominate a person or person(s) for the award of **Citizen of the Year**. We recognise that there are many more deeply involved citizens working for the benefit of the Simon's Town community than we could ever honour, nevertheless, in honouring one person, it brings to mind the many people who contribute to our community, town, and environment. In nominating a candidate for the award, please provide a motivation for your nomination.

The person(s) nominated should be a resident of or working in, greater Simon's Town, or, if from outside Simon's Town, have worked to the benefit of the greater Simon's Town community.

1. The nominee(s) shall have performed a specific action during the past year (August – July) which has benefited the greater Simon's Town community or a significant part of it.
2. In nominating the person(s) this specific action and its impact on Simon's Town should be detailed.
3. The nominee's contribution to the Simon's Town community shall not result from remunerated activity.
4. There is no limit to the number of times a person may be nominated for or receive the **Citizen of the Year Award**, and the Award need not be given each year.
5. The STCA Exco will consider all nominations received and make the final decision. The Award(s) will be presented at the STCA Half-Yearly General Meeting in August.

The award of **Citizen of the Year** to an individual highlights a specific activity of that individual during the year and in no way detracts from the community's appreciation for all the dedicated contributions made on an ongoing basis by many Simon's Town residents and rate payers.

Nominations providing a written motivation should either be mailed to the STCA (postal address above), or emailed to the Chair: angel45@iafrica.com or left at the STADCO office For Attention: STCA Chairman – BEFORE 4 August 2012.

Gold Star Award

The STCA have also decided to make a "Gold Star Award" at the upcoming General Meeting to the City Official or Department who we feel has provided outstanding service over the past year. Residents are welcome to provide nominations (to the same addresses as above for the Citizen of the Year).

Important Dates from GEESE

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|---------------|--|
| 18 July 2012: | 67 Minutes GEESE'S Mandela Gift to Glencairn – a Clean-Up (any time) |
| 18 July 2012: | 16h30 Opening of a new bridge over the Els River |
| 22 July 2012: | 17h30 Training on Leopard Toad spotting/rescuing at Cape Point Vineyards Tasting Room, 1 Chapman's Peak Drive, Noordhoek |

Solar-powered water heaters

Should anyone wish to read a good report on the pros and cons of Solar Powered water heating, please contact Cilla Bromley: cilla@bromley.co.za or 021 782 6400.

Wood chips wanted

Please contact Cilla Bromley (see above) if you are able to provide wood chips. These are excellent for stabilising the sandy paths in the wetland.

Artificial Reef

It has come to the STCA's attention that metal is being illegally? removed from the artificial reef created by the vessels sunk off the coast between Murdoch Valley and Miller's Point. The reef was specially created in the Marine Protected Area to attract sea life. If anyone knows anything about this, or has seen suspicious activity, please contact the STCA.

Museum Talk

Rod Campbell, author and master puppeteer, will give a talk on "The History of Television in South Africa" on 25 July, 2012. R20 per person includes a glass of wine or fruit juice. Queries to Yvonne at 021 786 4404 or Audrey at 021 786 1805.

Noise at Navy Barracks

Should any residents be disturbed by unreasonable noise issuing from Navy Barracks, they are encouraged to report it to the Navy at 021 787 3818, this line is manned 24/7.

Reporting issues to the City

Issues needing the City's attention can be reported directly to the Sub-council Manager, either by email to desiree.mentor@capetown.gov.za, fax 021- 782 1185, or by dropping off a note at the Sub-council offices at Fish Hoek. Please keep Desiree Mentor informed of progress / or lack of progress so that she can follow-up if necessary. Each report should contain the **Date** (of submitting the request); the **Category** (Roads, Waste Management, Parks, Water supply, Graffiti, etc); a **Detailed description of the problem** (this must include the exact location – eg not just a street name, but opposite which house number, or which end of a beach), and provide the **name and contact details** of the person submitting the request.

Emergency numbers:

- Simon's Town Police: **021 786-8646 or 8647**
- Fish Hoek Emergency Control Centre: **021 782 0333, 782-0444**
- Metro Police (Law Enforcement): **021 784 2033**
- Fire and Emergency: **107** from Telkom phones, **112** from cell phones
- Roads, potholes and stormwater: **0860 103 054 (24 Hours)**
- Water/Sewage Emergencies: **0860 103 054 (24 hours)**
- To report people tossing burning cigarette butts into vegetation: **021 424 7715**
- Cable theft, toll free 24/7 hotline: 0800 222 771.
- To report people feeding baboons: **021 957-5937 or 959-5900**
- Baboon emergencies: **071 588-6540** (all hours).
- Metrorail complaints: **0800 65 64 63**
- Navy Ops room (for all issues concerning the Navy) 021 787 3818 (all hours).

Queries and complaints can also be logged at the City's Call Centre: Tel: 0860103089 or SMS 31373 (no more than 160 characters) or email: ContactUS@capetown.gov.za

Subscriptions

STCA membership fees (**R80 per annum per household**) became due on 1 January 2012. Please pay membership fees (cash) at the STADCO parking office on Jubilee Square during office hours, or by internet banking. (We are avoiding use of cheques as the bank is now charging exorbitantly to process them.)

For internet banking : BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS:

Bank: Standard Bank,

Branch code: 036009

Account name: Simons Town Civic Association

Branch: Fish Hoek

Account number: 073815209

(Market link savings account)

Please say "Subs, your name, tel. number" as the sender. Please also notify the STCA that you have paid.

New members must give the STCA contact details so as to be put onto the Newsletter mailing list.

Please encourage neighbours and friends to join the STCA

STCA Web Page: <http://southerncrossroads.info/ggvnw/>