



## NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2020



### Chair's Note

This will be our final newsletter for 2020, resuming in January 2021 when we hope to be able to begin planning for our AGM. As always, we encourage communication and active citizenship. You are most welcome to engage with us on any issues you feel are in the interests of residents and ratepayers in our precinct and please do consider making yourself available to join our EXCO – fresh, positive energy is always most welcome.

Stay safe, happy holidays and here's hoping for a much better year ahead!

**Simon Metcalfe**  
*STCA Chairman*  
[simonmet3@gmail.com](mailto:simonmet3@gmail.com)

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## ACTIVE CITIZEN SHOUT-OUT

### ***GROWING HOMES IN MASIPHUMELELE***

Good people from Simon's Town are providing a brighter future for abandoned children. A dedicated group of trustees founded the St. Francis Church Outreach Trust in 2009. They manage the "Homes to Grow" project in conjunction with a child protection agency, "Home from Home", an organisation which pioneered the foster homes model for small family units.

The Outreach Trust has established two foster homes in Masiphumelele. Small family units of no more than six children are cared for by a fully trained foster mother who raises them within their own culture and mother tongue. The trustees have a direct hands-on approach and oversee many aspects from training to home maintenance.

The children's educational needs are the Trust's greatest challenge! Some never attended school; others were well behind their grade average. A big effort was made to assess their lack of knowledge and to get them to a standard acceptable by mainstream or skills schools. One of the houses has a fully equipped classroom and the Trust employs a dedicated tutor to supervise homework, and a remedial tutor who works on helping bridge the gaps. Given the trauma experienced by the children's past, the Trust invests in additional counselling, and occupational, physical- and speech therapy. The children's psychological well-being is monitored along with their academic ability to enable the necessary interventions to be provided.



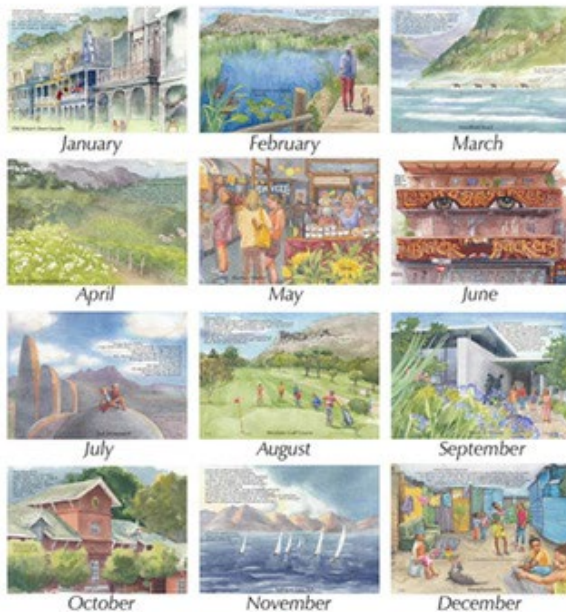
*School Report Discussion*



*Working in the classroom*

## How you can help

The Trust gets minimal funding through Government social grants. Fortunately, the children's medical care is free, but meeting the costs for special needs therapy is very challenging. The Trust strives to raise funds through the sale of annual calendars and the like, but is sustained mostly through donations. The 2021 calendar cost is reduced this year to only R 130. It has made many fans over the last 9 years. Sadly their artist passed away suddenly, and they are now looking for talented artists to help us with the next 2022 calendar version.



Originals of these Paintings by **Suzette Duby** are available for sale  
Cell: 071 412 1874 • email: [suzeduby2art@gmail.com](mailto:suzeduby2art@gmail.com)

No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, or otherwise without prior permission of the artist.

Bar code

© All rights reserved  
SUZETTE  
**Duby**



Thank you for purchasing this calendar and assisting us in raising funds for the education our foster children.

**ST. FRANCIS OUTREACH TRUST**

IT 1631/2009 - Sect. 18A - POB.Reg. 930031283

[www.stfrancistrust.org](http://www.stfrancistrust.org)

Facebook/ Homes to Grow

Tel: +27 (0)217863531 or +27 (0)217882586

*The Cape Peninsula 2021 Calendar, Only R 130 this year!*

If you wish to be supportive there are various ways of assisting: buy a calendar, donate your time and skill; fund educational needs (fees, books, uniforms); sponsor a child's birthday party (R 150), an outing or an event (R 1000), volunteer entertainment. There are many ways to help the staff and the children. Arrange a visit and find out for yourself.

You can donate money to the St. Francis Outreach Trust, Standard bank of SA Ltd., Fish Hoek Branch (036009), Account No. 271 907 185, Swift: SBZAJJ. Donations to the trust (NGO, PBO) are tax deductible in South Africa.

**Kindly email details of transfer to Monika du Sautoy (peteandme@mweb.co.za), Cell 074 910 7747. Monika is also your contact person for further information, along with Uwe Hass (uweh@realtime.co.za) Cell 072 631 2470**

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## SIMON'S TOWN SITE MEETING WITH CITY OFFICIALS

On behalf of the Simon's Town community their Civic Association (STCA) thanks everyone who came to the site meeting on Tuesday 3rd November 2020 in Simon's Town. In particular, Patricia Franke (Sub-Council Chairperson) and Desiree Mentor (Sub-Council Manager), who organised and set up the meeting with all the other relevant personnel.

Coming and seeing the areas we are concerned about made such a difference. Seeing goes a long way to believing and understanding. The STCA appreciated the Sub-Council Team sparing the time and above all listening and responding! It made the City Logo come true: **"Making progress possible, together!"** The STCA looks forward to working more closely with the Sub-Council in future and producing great results!

**The STCA also invited participation from the STBA and the CPF and a number of issues and challenges were highlighted at the site inspection, inter alia:**

**Traffic:** Taxi drivers are washing their taxis at the beach/station side. Taxi drivers are speeding at Murdoch Valley side (close to the school) from 7:00am -7:45am and from 4pm – this was a daily occurrence. Principal TRAFFIC said he would these complaints.

**Problem Building Challenges:** Last month's newsletter highlighted the issue of problem buildings in the Alfred Lane area. The STCA walked the Sub-Council team through the area noting The Royal Alfred Hall as a major concern, along with the Lane, the Dawood Building, and erf 4053. The Lewis Building on the High Street also needs maintenance urgently.

**Solid Waste:** Baboon Proof Bins are still not available from the City. Green litter bins need to be provided on the shop side of Simon's Town.

**Streetlights:** The Electricity Department mentioned that poachers sometimes switch off the power supply in the Murdoch Valley area when committing illegal activity during the night-time. This can affect Simon's Town Street lights as well.

**Sewer Pump Station (Foul Smell):** STCA alerted City officials that there was an ongoing foul smell in the Long Beach and Harbour Bay shopping mall. Mr. Andrew April advised that Mr. Brian Andrew Thomson, Technical Manager for Pump Stations and Mr. Abongile Duna, Pump Station Manager be made aware of this matter.

**Fire hazard:** It was pointed out to Disaster Risk Management that the bush near the Waterfall in Simons Town (Cardiff Road) has not been cleared for 5 years. Assistant Disaster Risk Management Officer said they would arrange for a risk assessment and have the area cleared, as the concern was top priority due to it being fire season. (Update – clearing is underway)

**Sewer:** Mr Andrew Mark April explained the Sewer tender has expired and it will only be renewed within the next 6 months. He urged residents to be patient during this time, as sewer complaints could take a bit longer to resolve. Short staffed meant there was only one team working day and night.

**Dido Valley Housing Development:** There is no taxi rank situated near the new Dido Valley Housing development. Councillor Liell-Cock to feedback.



*The Sub Council 19 Chairperson, Ward Councillor for Ward 61, Subcouncil 19 manager and staff wrote to the STCA to extend their gratitude and thanks to the STCA and all line departments for attending the Site Inspection.*

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## FROM THE DESK OF THE WARD COUNCILLOR, SIMON LIELL-COCK

**Local Government has a primary responsibility to provide the following services:**

- 1. Water and Sanitation:** Due to ongoing water problems in Glencairn the area around Forrest Drive was identified for upgrading. This is currently underway.
- 2. Electricity:** There have been some isolated incidents over the past month but all have been successfully resolved. Please log any issue as soon as possible on the “Report a fault” option on [www.capetown.gov.za](http://www.capetown.gov.za) (see article below for further info).
- 3. Solid Waste:** Illegal dumping by builders, gardening services and private households has become a major problem and the team have been stretched across the sub-council. I have been extremely pleased with the response from the team in Muizenberg. Please report any incident as soon as possible and obtain evidence of the culprit if possible.
- 4. Transport:**
  - a. Phase 1 & 2 of the Kommetjie Main road upgrade has been completed.** Phase 3 which will take the road widening past Masiphumelele is in a process that will take probably 3 years to complete.
  - b. Potholes** – residents need to report potholes. Following a wet winter and the Covid19 lockdown there is a backlog of potholes needing repair. The City has reprioritised the transport budget to focus on this issue.
- 5. Biodiversity:**
  - a. Invasive Alien Species** – the biodiversity unit continues to do excellent work on this issue and has 3 teams working across the Ward.

**b. Baboon Management** – the recent controversy regarding the relocation of K11 to Tokai has raised the profile of the Baboon Management Programme. Since the City started this program 14 years ago the population of baboons in the managed troops has increased by 80% to a point where the success of the program has become a challenge.

**6. Coastal Dept:**

**a. Glencairn Tidal Pool** – the Contractor has been appointed and budget approved to repair the walkway. Hopefully the work will be completed this year.

**b. The security contractor appointed by the Coastal Dept.** has proven to be effective in dealing with street people sleeping in the coastal property.

**c. Seaforth/Burgers walk redevelopment** – the development is going ahead but has had to be reduced due to a lack of collaboration with Public Works regarding the gravel parking at Seaforth.

**d. Penguin project** – Presently there are 7 staff from SANCOB and SANParks working in partnership.

**7. Housing: Dido Valley** – the first 20 houses are currently being built. It is anticipated that the project will take 3 years and house all the Redhill residents, 100 land claimants and 25 beneficiaries from the old Simon's Town housing database.

**8. Social Development:**

**a. Street people** – the field workers funded by the Councillor Ward Allocation budget are on the streets of Simon's Town every weekday. They assess each and every stroller/homeless person on the streets of Simon's Town 5 days a week.

**b. Happy Valley** – The shelter has done excellent work during the lockdown but is experiencing some financial challenges due to the lockdown and the increase in unemployment.

**9. Heritage: Simon's Town Museum** – All museums across the Country found themselves in a financial crisis due to the change in National legislation which removed Municipalities ability to provide rates relief to NGO's and museums. The City therefore introduced a special tariff to replace the rates rebate which the Museum has finally managed to qualify for.

**10. Safety and Security:** The City has been faced with a concerted onslaught of land invasions which was exacerbated by the controversial court judgement which has severely curtailed the ability of the City to protect land set aside for housing, roads, pipelines and infrastructure. This has meant that Law Enforcement focus has had to be on anti-land invasion with a corresponding reduction in by-law enforcement in the suburbs.

You can stay up to date with the City's news, events, service delivery notices and alerts. Subscribe to City News Online here: <http://www.capetown.gov.za/subscribe> #CTNews

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## THE SQUEAKY WHEEL GETS THE MOST GREASE!

### *How to Improve Municipal Service Provision to Simon's Town*

In the year 2000, 38 municipalities were consolidated into the City of Cape Town and the City consolidated 38 respective computer systems into one, German designed digital management system. It went live in 2003. And it's imperative that every resident learns how to use it.

The City uses 900 different complaint types, which are serviced by dozens of departments. For example, The Law enforcement, Traffic and Coordination Department consists of Traffic Services and Law Enforcement, two separate sections. Law Enforcement is responsible for enforcing the City's by-laws and traffic laws, clamping down on general nuisances – traffic, driving, licences, alcohol abuse, anti-land invasion, displaced people, informal trading, **neighbourhood safety**, problem buildings, and rapid response etc. etc.

Simon's Town's Community Police Forum (CPF), Business Association (STBA), and Civic Association (STCA), are very concerned that we have No Law Enforcement (LE) Officers based in the Fish Hoek LE office. In particular, the ST High Street has had several criminal incidents and unsavoury encounters and needs a routine, visible, LE presence. We are told that ST is regarded as low priority, especially in the face of land invasions, and other areas, like Muizenberg. One reason we are under-rated for service delivery is because we don't complain enough, and demand attention – be a 'squeaky wheel'. On this issue you can dial 107 from a landline or 021 480 7700 every time you witness an event that LE should be around to deal with.

**Apart from Law Enforcement there are so many service delivery issues:**

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• leaking water pipes;</li><li>• no power or electricity/unscheduled outages;</li><li>• blocked storm-water drains;</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• uncollected refuse or waste;</li><li>• tree removal &amp; cutting;</li><li>• graffiti &amp; stolen or vandalised City property illegal dumping;</li><li>• noise nuisances;</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• unruly or inappropriate behaviour;</li><li>• problem buildings; speeding &amp; traffic offence;</li><li>• pot holes</li></ul> |
|---|--|---|

Unless a problem is reported through the digital service request system it does not get attention. Basically, it is anonymous to the service provider. If you need a service, you have to report a problem. There is no point calling out to anyone in authority as the problem must be logged to put on a task sheet by the relevant department and budget.

Households, streets, and local community areas should ensure they monitor their public spaces and report problems. The more reports we collectively make the more attention and service provision we should get. The best way to get services is to log our need for services with the City.

The main benefit of using this system is the strong tracking and reporting capability. The reference number you receive after making a service request (C3) is used to follow up on a particular notification. Neither you, nor the STCA, can push for service delivery if a request has never been made. However, if you give the Councillor the reference number for the service you requested, he can then call that department and ask what progress is being made on the specific problem.

Ideally, a street or NHW area, should make a survey of service needs, and then make a batch of service requests e.g. potholes, branches threatening power lines, overgrown verges, leaks, lack of baboon bins etc.. In fact, several people might report the same fault just to get the message home.

The service request system is open to all stakeholders 24/7 via the SAP portal and self-service on the internet. The process comprises 5 steps: receive request; assign it; execute, close, and report.

The City's Call Centre can be contacted the following ways:

## CITY CALL CENTRE

Land line 107 or Cell 021 480 7700 (free)

- Public Emergency Communication Centre for any emergency or disaster (fire, mountain rescue, traffic accident, crime etc.).
- Operator will ensure right emergency response.
- Call to your cell phone company on 112 to link to their emergency call centre (free)

## POLICE EMERGENCY – 1011

## AMBULANCE EMERGENCY - 10177

## CITY OF CAPE TOWN REQUESTS FOR SERVICES

- Call 0860 103 089 and report problem and service required
- Email [contact.us@capetown.gov.za](mailto:contact.us@capetown.gov.za) or [www.capetown.gov.za](http://www.capetown.gov.za) and go to the service requests application. Select the service request you would like to make using the drop-down menu. It is useful to have a photo of the problem as you can upload it.
- SMS to 31220 for electricity related enquiries and 31373 for water related enquiries.
- Roads & storm-water related issues can be reported directly to the Transport Information centre (TIC) by and calling 0800 65 64 63 and Email [transport.info@capetown.gov.za](mailto:transport.info@capetown.gov.za). You can also download and use the Transport for Cape Town app on your smartphone.

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## MEMBERSHIP

A reminder that by joining the STCA and taking an interest in the issues that affect us all, we can collectively make a difference.

**“There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about.”**

*– Margaret J. Wheatley*

Please contact us if you would be interested in volunteering on any of our portfolios – we need a dedicated member for Environmental and Ecological Matters, Stakeholder Engagement, and more! Visit <https://stca.wildapricot.org/> to know more.

**Subscriptions are R120.00 per annum per family**  
**Banking Details: Standard Bank Fish Hoek (Branch Code 036009)**  
**Account number 073815209 Ref: Initials/Surname/Cell no**

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

The newly refurbished 'BarStaurant' on Glen Road is opening on 1 December 2020 and it's looking great! There's something for everyone: a sports bar (with seven TV's), a family restaurant, an inside dining area, play areas with table and chairs for families with younger children, inside and outside seating on both sides and a great menu catering for a range of tastes.

The owners have done a marvellous job of restoring the beautiful fireplaces to their former glory, upgrading the bathrooms and kitchen and renovating the bar and deck. You can see what they're up to on their

**Facebook page** - <https://www.facebook.com/BarStaurant/>

**or follow them on Instagram** - <https://www.instagram.com/barstaurant/>

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## FYNBOS FLOWERING NOW

'Cape Snow' is definitely the star of November's show! There are still plenty of tiny treasures to be found if you look.



*Cape Snow and rock formations*



*Cape Snow (Syncarpha vestita)*



*Aristea capitata*



*Dilatris corymbosa*



*Chirona linoides*



*Roella ciliata*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Please share your events with us – we'll publish them in the next newsletter!

Simon's Town presents...

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**SWITCHING ON OF THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS!!**

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06 December, 17h00 to 21h00 at Jubilee Square



Carols with the SA Navy Band

Street Parade with Fire Brigade, NSRI, CMR... and Santa!

Takeaway and sit down offers from Main Road restaurants

Unique gifts, tasty food at The Fabulous Christmas market at the Town Hall

Come and celebrate our spectacular new lights and feel the spirit of the season



**SWITCHING ON OF THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**  
6 December, Jubilee Square

## The Lord Nelson's QUIZ NIGHT



Test your knowledge and  
join in the fun.

FRIDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2020

7:30 PM

R 80 per/team  
up to 4 people

**BOOK NOW**

**021 786 1386**

events@lordnelson.co.za

58 St Georges Street  
Simon's Town



**QUIZ NIGHT, The Lord Nelson Inn**  
18 December, 7h30 onwards



**GLENCAIRN COMMUNITY MARKET**  
*19 December, Glen Road*

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## IN CLOSING ...

We are building a directory of special interest groups/associations in the area - you're invited to email us details.

If you would like to get more involved in the STCA, or have an event you'd like us to share, please don't hesitate to make contact – we'd love you to join us. Volunteers are always welcome!

**Visit our website: [stca.wildapricot.org](http://stca.wildapricot.org)**  
**Facebook Page: [SimonstownCivicAssociation](#)**  
**Email: [stcamail@gmail.com](mailto:stcamail@gmail.com)**



*Aristea capitata at Cape Point*