



SYBRAND PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025

As 2025 draws to a close, we're taking a moment to look back on what's been happening in our streets, park, and along the river – and to share a few ways you can get involved in keeping Sybrand Park safe, green, and connected.

FROM THE CIVIC CHAIRPERSON

Dear Sybrand Park residents,
I'm pleased to share this closing message for 2025 from the Sybrand Park Civic Association.

Our aim is simple: to help our suburb run as smoothly as possible. We meet monthly to deal with issues we pick up ourselves, those raised by civic-minded residents, and matters relating to the City of Cape Town, particularly Ward 60. These are seldom high-profile concerns; often they're small, practical things. But dealing with them improves daily life for residents and prevents minor issues from becoming bigger problems. Please reach out to the Civic Association where you feel we may be of assistance.

We're pleased to have added new trees to the park, which are being carefully nurtured as they establish. The Parks & Recreation team from Athlone has also maintained a good mowing and cleaning schedule, helping to keep the park a pleasant space.

We are fortunate to have such a generous piece of land at the heart of our suburb for all to enjoy.

We've also supported the new composting initiative in the park, with three bins along the fence between the park and soccer field. Thanks to Saturday volunteers and resident contributions, it is already helping to reduce waste to landfill—please consider adding your vegetable waste.

We also express our support for the Neighbourhood Watch and encourage residents to participate if you are able. Our thanks go to the team for their patrols and other security work during 2025.

The executive committee wishes everyone a pleasant, restful and safe holiday period through into January 2026. If you are celebrating Christmas, may it be joyous and memorable.

KEITH MINNAAR
CHAIRPERSON

PASSING OF PAT MELLEY

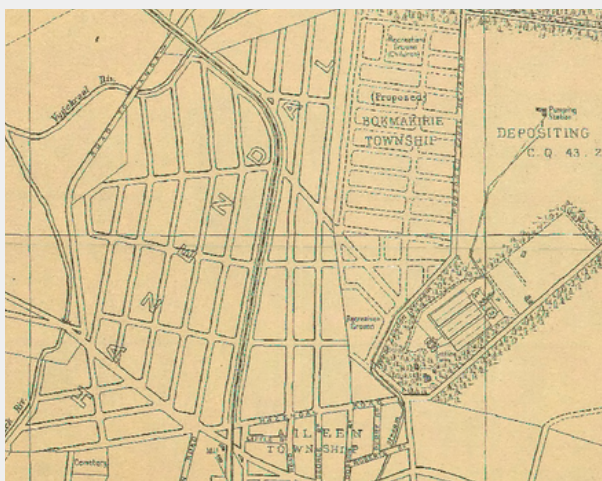
The Civic Association wishes to acknowledge the meaningful contribution of Pat Melley to the ongoing functioning of the committee over a period exceeding 15 years. Pat represented the suburb in the forum of the Greater Cape Town Civic Alliance (civic associations working together for good outcomes). Pat passed away in June this year. Rest in peace, Pat.

A GLIMPSE INTO SYBRAND PARK'S PAST

Once part of the larger Hazendal farm (recorded in earlier documents under various spellings), the land was gradually subdivided over many decades before becoming the suburb we know today.

The modern story begins with Sybrand Jacobus Mostert Kotze, of the Mowbray Mosterts and Mostert's Mill. He bought most of the Hazendal land between 1898 and 1929 and later consolidated it as a single property. The land he sold to the railway became the Cape Flats line, which still marks the curve between Hazendal and Sybrand Park.

By 1931, a planning map already shows a street layout almost identical to the one we have now, but the streets themselves were still unnamed.



1931 plan of the Sybrand Park area (excerpt from Historical Maps 1931: Cape Environs, City of Cape Town GeoServices / Heritage Datasets).

By 1935, aerial photographs of the area reveal a small cluster of homes already taking shape along those future roads.



Aerial view of the Sybrand Park area (excerpt from City of Cape Town GeoServices, Aerial Imagery 1935.).

After World War II, more families were drawn to the area, and by the 1950s Sybrand Park had been zoned as a white suburb under apartheid planning, surrounded by coloured and black areas. In 1960, the suburb was formally named Sybrand Park in honour of Sybrand Kotze.

Since 1994, those legal barriers have fallen away, and Sybrand Park has steadily become more diverse, with new families putting down roots here.

Today, Sybrand Park remains one of the smaller pockets in the Southern Suburbs, shaped by its tight-knit streets, layered family stories, and residents who continue to look after its quiet, community-focused character.



COMPOSTING INITIATIVE: GROWING COMMUNITY, NOT JUST COMPOST

On 8 November 2025, a small idea became a weekly ritual: neighbours arriving at Prieska Park with ice-cream tubs and buckets of veggie offcuts, staying to chat while the bins were turned and topped up. What started as a way to reduce food waste has quickly become a way to meet the people who share our streets.

As volunteers, we've met long-time residents and new arrivals, kids and grandparents, and even visitors from neighbouring suburbs.

Saturday mornings at the bins have become a simple but special part of the week – a place to swap tips, share stories, and finally put names to familiar faces. It's a gentle reminder that community is built in small, regular moments.

What is it?

The Sybrand Park Composting Initiative aims to make our suburb a food-waste-free zone by creating a shared community composting space. Residents drop off food scraps; together we turn them into compost for our neighbourhood gardens.

Where?

Prieska Park, under the trees behind the play area next to Prieska Road. Entering the park from Prieska Road is the quickest way to the bins.

When?

Most Saturdays 09:00 - 11:00. Reminders go out on the neighbourhood WhatsApp groups.

Full details, including how it works, what you can bring, and answers to common questions, are available on our project website.

Come say hello, drop off your veggie scraps, and be part of turning waste into something good for Sybrand Park!



LEARN MORE [HERE](#)

THE LITTERBOOM PROJECT IN SYBRAND PARK: CLEANING OUR RIVERS, PROTECTING OUR OCEANS

If you've walked along the Black River lately and noticed less plastic drifting past, chances are you've seen The Litterboom Project (TLP) at work. TLP's mission is simple but powerful: stop plastic pollution before it reaches the ocean by catching it in our rivers. Using floating "booms", strong community partnerships and clever reuse of waste, they're helping keep waterways cleaner while creating jobs and raising environmental awareness.

TLP operates on eight rivers in KZN, two in Cape Town and along several coastlines in South Africa, and has intercepted roughly 600 tonnes of waste this year alone. Sybrand Park is one of their anchor sites in Cape Town. Here, two litterbooms and a four-person team look after a 450 m stretch of the Black River, clearing an impressive 37,633 kg of pollution in 2025, with 521 kg recovered as recyclables.

Those recyclables don't just vanish into a distant depot. They go to TLP's Innovation Hub, where they're turned into locally made products – things like coasters, plant stakes, hair combs and hooks. These upcycled items are sold, and each purchase helps fund ongoing work along rivers like ours.

Residents, schools and nearby businesses are increasingly getting involved: visiting the site, spreading the word, and seeing first-hand how much difference a few simple booms can make. Week by week, people report what they see – clearer water, cleaner banks, and far less floating debris.

Be Part of the Change

Sybrand Park's success and TLP's national impact is only possible through your support.

You can help keep our rivers clean by creating awareness, recycling at home, donating to or Partnering with The Litterboom Project, Purchasing upcycled products at [TLPshop.co.za](https://tlpshop.co.za)

Every piece of pollution intercepted is one less piece reaching our oceans.

Together, we can protect our rivers, coastlines, and oceans — one piece at a time.

CRIME ON THE RISE: HELP STRENGTHEN OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

The Sybrand Park Neighbourhood Watch is doing its best with limited resources, but we need more help. Please consider joining the patrollers over the holiday season – even one patrol a month makes a difference. To get involved, contact Omar Ghanjem on 074 920 5004.

We also rely on Licence Plate Recognition (LPR) cameras to alert us to flagged vehicles and support SAPS investigations. If you're unable to patrol, please consider contributing to these running costs as your way of being part of the Watch.

If you'd like to support the LPR cameras, you can use:

- Account Holder: Sybrand Park Neighbourhood Watch
- Account Number: 78600187262
- Bank Name: Al Baraka Bank
- Branch Code: 800000
- Reference: LPR Cams

Please report all incidents to SAPS so our crime stats reflect reality and support extra policing. Stay alert, keep your eyes and ears open, and help keep Sybrand Park safe.

SUPPORTING THE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

By living in Sybrand Park, you're already represented by the Civic Association. If you would like our help with any civic matter, we will help or support anyone.

To cover running and subscription costs, and support community initiatives in Sybrand Park where there is no other funding available, please consider an annual contribution of R50 per adult or R100 per household. The Civic Association does not receive any public (CoCT or other) funding.

All contributions are held in the Association's bank account and fully reported on at our Annual General Meeting (AGM).

To support us, please use:

- Account Holder: SYBRAND PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION
- Account Number: 1073238385
- Account Type: Current account
- Bank Name: Nedbank
- Branch Code: 198765

Unless you wish to remain anonymous, please reference your donation with your street address so that your contribution can be privately acknowledged.

CONTACT US

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**SYBRAND PARK
CIVIC ASSOCIATION**