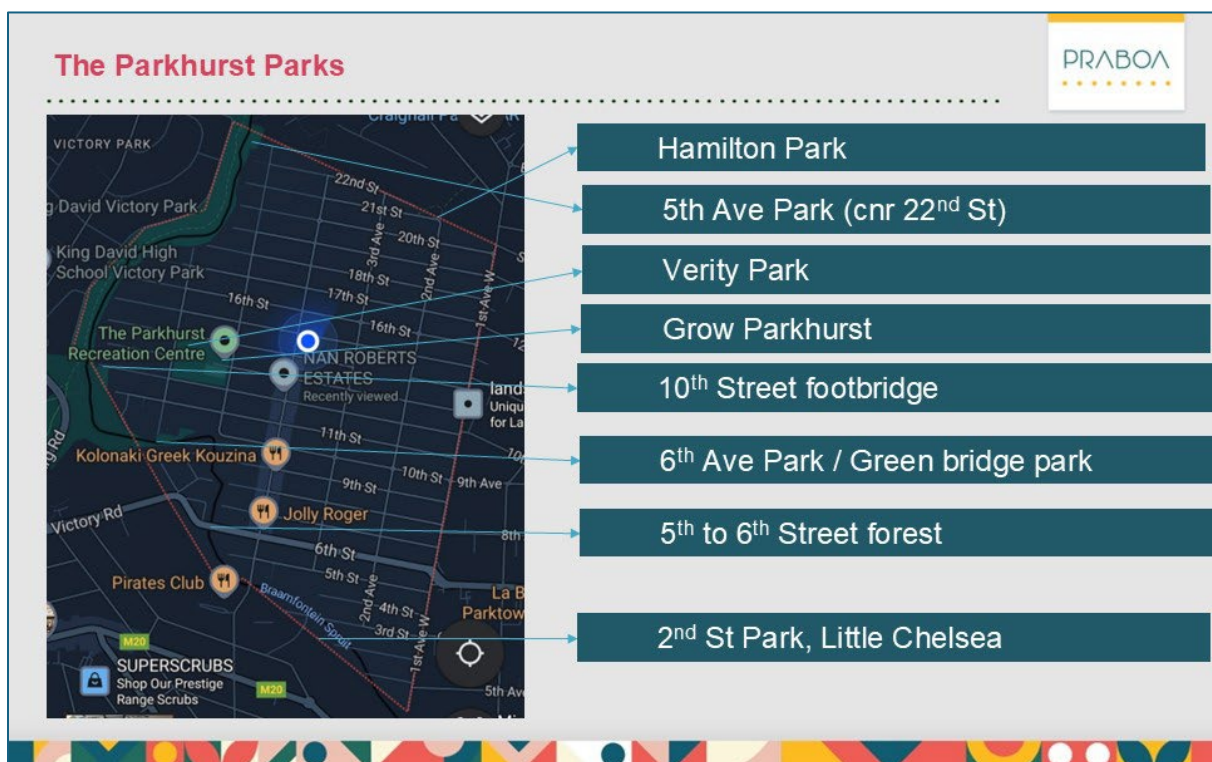




## Environment Portfolio Report 2025

In 2025, PRABOA continued to build on their existing environment portfolio, upcycling the 2024 programme into the current year, and taking note of lessons along the way.

The Environment portfolio loosely encompasses the below, with the addition of some high traffic public walkways along the boundaries of Parkhurst Primary School. PRABOA also closely collaborates with Parkhurst Recreation Centre management on issues that may impact the surrounding areas at Verity Park. Little Chelsea, does look after itself, however the residents will reach out to PRABOA if there are major city faults.



Our service providers are

1. The Jolly Dog Walker
2. Bubele Africa
3. Jozi Trails
4. Local transport (usually a bakkie) that helps us remove waste to the relevant dumpsite.

\*The overarching Environment portfolio and its projects is co-ordinated by Pauline Borton (PRABOA support), but each community project and clean-up is facilitated by



volunteers and approved/endorsed by the PRABOA Committee. PRABOA support ensures that all projects align from a communication and outcomes perspective.



*Bubele Africa ready for a day of work at Hamilton Park*



*The Jolly Dog Walker joins us at The Parkhurst Village Fair. Image by: Captured by Nicole*

The 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Traders pay Bubele Africa directly to clean up the street every Friday, however, PRABOA manages them, and stocks them with rubbish bags, tools and brooms.



## Themes about place we want to encourage.



- Safe Spaces
- Litter Free Places
- Water considerate spaces
- Biodiverse Spaces
- Playable Places
- Places for pause and reflection
- Therapeutic garden spaces / space that work with nature within established systems such as composting or recycling



---

## Key Interventions in 2025

- Bi- Weekly Clean ups in collaboration with Bubele Africa which focus on Verity Park, and it's surrounds as a priority but do move around the neighbourhood to Hamilton Park, pavements surrounding Parkhurst Primary School, 6<sup>th</sup> Street bridge and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park.
- A productive Service Level Agreement with The Jolly Dog Walker who have successfully helped us maintain Verity Park.
- Implementation of informational signage
- Ablution Block Clean – up in collaboration with Parkhurst Recreation Centre, The Jolly Dog Walker and Bubele Africa
- The clearing of the 10<sup>th</sup> Street Servitude following major storms.
- World Clean Up Day
- 4 x Parkhurst Park Clean Up Days focussing on: 12<sup>th</sup> Street Park and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park in collaboration with Being a River
- Intentionally working with Grow Parkhurst to maintain compost and close the loop with organic waste from our clean ups



- The activation of Verity Park with community led events, activities and fundraisers such as workshops with The Nanny Link, The Parkhurst Village Fair, Mindful Movement and Pilates in the Park.
- Networking with Being a River, has resulted in a connection made via creative conversations and a new awareness about the Braamfontein Spruit.
- Networking with Jozi Trails who have shared knowledge about indigenous biodiversity and added a layer of awareness to our Clean – Up days.
- Networking with like – minded volunteers who have taken ownership of the clean -ups and green spaces on their doorstep. **We thank those who have dedicated their time, money and energy to this cause!**



*5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park, a sunny afternoon in October. Photograph supplied by a local resident.*



## Our Working Programme 2025

July		
Bi - weekly Clean Up: Bubele Africa 9 Jul	10th Street footbridge towards 9th Street/ Verity Park Kids play area	
Bi - weekly Clean Up: Bubele Africa 23 Jul	Verity Park/ Rec Centre area	
August		
Bi - weekly Clean Up: Bubele Africa 6 Aug	2nd St Park, Little Chelsea	
Bi - weekly Clean Up: Bubele Africa 20 Aug	Verity Park/ Grow Parkhurst	
Parkhurst Park clean up: 5th Avenue Park 3 Aug	5th Avenue Park	
September		
Bi - weekly Clean Up: Bubele Africa 10 Sept	10th Street footbridge towards 9th Street/ Hamilton Park	
Bi - weekly Clean Up: Bubele Africa 17 Sept	Verity Park/ Swimming Pool Area	
Spruit Day - 20th Sept	Spruit Day (World Clean Up Day) - 12th Street Park / 1st Street / 5th Ave / Braeside Bridge / 18th Street cul de sac / 6th Street spruit area	
Parkhurst Fair 26 - 28th Sept	Verity Park/ Rec Centre areas	
October		
Bi - weekly Clean Up: Bubele Africa 8 Oct	Verity Park/ Grow Parkhurst	
Bi - weekly Clean Up: Bubele Africa 22 Oct	Victory Road (from the dump) to 6th Street bridge/the area on either side of the 6th Street bridge	
Parkhurst Park clean up: 5th Avenue Park 5 Oct	5th Avenue Park	
November		
Bi - weekly Clean Up: Bubele Africa 5 Nov	1st Avenue West / 5th Avenue shops/ road	
Bi - weekly Clean Up: Bubele Africa 19 Nov	Verity Park/ Grow Parkhurst / Clinic Area	
Halloween - 2 Nov	Verity Park and surrounds	
Parkhurst Park clean up: 12th Street park 15 Nov	12th Street Park	
December		
Bi - weekly Clean Up: Bubele Africa 10 Dec	Verity Park/ Grow Parkhurst / Clinic Area	
Bi - weekly Clean Up: Bubele Africa 17 Dec	Verity Park/ Rec Centre area	
Parkhurst Park clean up: 5th Avenue 7 Dec	5th Avenue Park	

<sup>th</sup>  
\*4<sup>th</sup> Avenue: every week on a Friday.

\*Jolly Dog Walker 2 x per week



	Bubele Team req.	Date
<b>March</b>		
Parkhurst Park clean up: 2 March 12th Street park	5	2 March
<b>April</b>		
Parkhurst Park clean up: 13 April 5th Avenue Park	6	13 April
<b>June</b>		
Parkhurst Park clean up : 7 June 12th Street park	6	7 June
<b>August</b>		
Parkhurst Park clean up: 5th Avenue Park 3 Aug	6	3 Aug
<b>September</b>		
Spruit Day (World Clean Up Day) - 12th Street Park / 1st Street / 5th Ave / Braeside Bridge / 18t Street cul de sac / 6th Street spruit area	10	20 Sept
Parkhurst Fair - Verity Park 26 - 28 Sept	10	26 - 28th Sept
<b>October</b>		
Parkhurst Park clean up: 5th Avenue Park 5 Oct	6	5 Oct
<b>November</b>		
Halloween - to be confirmed	6	2 Nov
Parkhurst Park clean up: 12th Street park 2 Nov	6	16 Nov
<b>December</b>		
Parkhurst Park clean up: 5th Avenue 7 Dec	6	7 Dec
*Water testing to happen over a period of 12 months at 5th Avenue park, where possible these will align with our clean up days so Bubele can join us.		

---

## Our Progress:

### Verity Park:

PRABOA is endorsed by Johannesburg City Parks and Zoos (JCPZ) to maintain the park and carry out community activities in this space, with a view to adopt the park soon. JCPZ has informed us that we can host between 3 – 4 events in the park and motivate for the fee to be waived. Parkhurst Village Fair was the first event where we motivated for this and were granted use of the park with no fee. In 2026, much of our programme will centre on Verity Park as we activate the space further. The Jolly Dog Walker and PRABOA have entered into a Service Level Agreement, which has worked well over the year, and were we more resourced, the park could benefit from their support a few more days in the week.

# PRABOA





Task	Status	Owner	Stage	Due date	Notes
Cleaning by the library	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	1/8/2025	
Picking up poos	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	1/8/2025	
Cleaning up the childrens play area	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	1/8/2025	
Picking up poos	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	4/8/2025	
Cleaning rubbish in the park after weeke	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	4/8/2025	
Picking up poos	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	4/8/2025	
Cleaned the pavement around the park	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	8/8/2025	
Raking up leaves	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	8/8/2025	
Cleaned the parking area	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	8/8/2025	
Picking up poos	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	11/8/2025	
Raking up leaves	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	11/8/2025	
Cleaning up the childrens play area	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	11/8/2025	
Picking up poos	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	15/8/2025	
Cleaning rubbish in the park after weeke	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	15/8/2025	
Cleaned the parking area	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	15/8/2025	
Picking up poos	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	18/8/2025	
Raking up leaves	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	18/8/2025	
Cleaning by the library	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	18/8/2025	
Picking up poos	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	22/8/2025	
Cleaning up the childrens play area	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	22/8/2025	
Raking up leaves	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	22/8/2025	
Cleaning up the childrens play area	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	25/8/2025	
Picking up poos	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	25/8/2025	
Cleaned the pavement around the park	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	25/8/2025	
Raking up leaves	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	29/8/2025	
Cleaned the parking area	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	29/8/2025	
Cleaning up the childrens play area	Completed	Kumbo	Day of	29/8/2025	



The Jolly Dog Walker's tracking sheet.

Signage was updated and replaced at Verity Park – with new information, replacing the faded signage from before.


**Welcome to Verity Signage**

**Caution slow down – add sticker**

**Children's play area signage**



PRABOA repaired the lock on one of the gates on 14<sup>th</sup> Street and a resident has assisted with another lock along 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue



*Before and After*

## Verity Park Activations 2025

During 2025, PRABOA was approached by volunteers, residents and businesses who wanted to collaborate with the community. These networks have conceptualised community orientated activities that showcase their skills while bringing us together in the heart Parkhurst at Verity Park.

The following activities are endorsed by PRABOA and supported via our social media channels:

- The Nanny Link with Thuli
- Mindful Movement / Community Yoga with Lauren Wilshere

## Parkhurst Recreation Centre, guard house clinic and library.

Given the vicinity to Verity Park, PRABOA frequently sends Bubele Africa to assist with the public throughfares around the park, such as clinic pavement, and the surrounding parking areas. In 2025, prior to the fair PRABOA engaged MRI plumbing who repaired the following items:

- Repair leak on garden tap.
- Replace toilet inlet valves that have failed.
- Replace leaking urinal bottle trap.
- Install outside Garden tap.



- Unblock sewer blockages on both sides.
- Carry out a camera inspection of the drain.
- Clean drain of roots with Milling Machine.

---

## About our activators at Verity Park:

### The Nanny Link –

Three times a week the Nannies of Parkhurst get together at Verity Park and hold educational and fun activities for the toddlers of Parkhurst. They use the Kids Play area, Parkhurst Recreation Centre. Library and Grow Parkhurst. PRABOA was initially contacted because The Nanny Link needed playgroup space and help with communication and networking. Since this initial meeting, we have helped the group source space at the Parkhurst Recreation Centre and at Verity Park, which they regularly activate. Thuli has tirelessly worked at a consistent programme and now the group have settled into a routine with an innovative programme.

In 2026, we will be inviting The Nanny Link to attend a Safety and Security talk in collaboration with 24/7.

### ABOUT The Nanny network

The Nanny Network can be simply explained as a group of Nannies that came together for a common cause, to be more than just babysitters.

After realising that more can be done with toddlers in terms of stimulating them, they decided to put together activities that can improve the kids fine and gross motor skills. By doing so, they're preparing them for the next phase of their lives

The organiser and leader of TNN (The Nanny Network) Nokuthula Ncube, (who is also the nanny of the Naude Family), is a qualified Early Childhood Development practitioner with over **10 years experience** working with kids of different age groups. She also holds **diploma in business administration**.



The Nanny network





## GOALS FOR THE YEAR

A sneak peak of which direction we would love to take in terms educating our toddlers, nannies and preparing them for the next phase of their lives.

### 1<sup>st</sup> QUARTER Jan - April



- Joining Story time at the library
- Structuring the toddlers activities
- Enabling the group activities at the park

### 2<sup>nd</sup> QUARTER May - Aug



- Introducing the The Nanny Network to the Park Community
- Music & Dance activities
- Focus on:
  - Colours
  - Body Parts
  - Balance

### 3<sup>rd</sup> QUARTER Sep - Dec



- Gardening with grow Parkhurst
- Group creative arts & painting activities
- Focus on:
  - Counting
  - Animals
  - Halloween & Christmas

The Nanny network



## HERE IS WHY WE NEED PLAYGROUP SPACE

**1. Socialization:** A playgroup space provides a safe environment for children to interact, make friends, and develop social skills.

**2. Learning through play:** Play-based learning helps children develop cognitive, emotional, and physical skills.

**3. Community building:** A playgroup space fosters a sense of community among parents and caregivers, providing opportunities for support and connection.

The Nanny network





## WHAT WE'LL ACCOMPLISH

**1. Child development:** Our playgroup space will support children's cognitive, social, emotional, and physical development through play-based activities.

**2. Parent support:** We'll provide a platform for parents and nannies to connect, share experiences, and receive support.

**3. Safe and nurturing environment:** Our space will offer a safe, welcoming, and nurturing environment for children to explore, learn, and grow.

By having a playgroup space, we'll create a valuable resource for families, promoting healthy child development, socialization, and community building.

The Nanny network



**The Nanny Link**  
BY THULI

**WEDNESDAY**

WHAT TO BRING:

- 2 BOOKS
- 1 SMALL BOWL 🍲
- 1 BIG BOWL

Where?  
Verity Park  
Parkhurst

**THURSDAY**

WHAT TO BRING:

- BEANSEEDS
- COTTON WOOL
- CLEANING SPONGE
- GRASS
- EGG CARTONS
- BOX OR CONTAINER THAT CAN FIT KIDS BOTH FEET

What time?  
10:30am

**FRIDAY**

WHAT TO BRING:

- BALOONS
- TOOTHPICKS
- A STRING

# PRABOΛ





WWW.THENANNYLINK.CO.ZA



hey there!

I'm Thuli


THE NANNY LINK FOUNDER


The Nanny Link

The Nanny Link is a vibrant playgroup created by a nanny specifically for nannies and their little tots in Parkhurst . Our primary objective is to establish a secure environment where children can play, learn, and interact freely.

We are committed to nurturing a supportive atmosphere where children can flourish, and caregivers feel valued. Our activities are thoughtfully crafted to stimulate **creativity**, **curiosity**, and **connection**, ensuring that every child receives individualized attention.

Through engaging activities and the sharing of stories, The Nanny Link is devoted to cultivating a community that appreciates both the joys and challenges of caregiving.

 @PARKS.NANNY.LINK

SAVE FOR LATER 



WWW.THENANNYLINK.CO.ZA



## Our Plans For 2026

The Nanny Link has exciting plans for 2026:

- ◆ **\*\*Conduct First Aid & CPR training\*\*** (in collaboration with other organizations) for both nannies and parents.
- ◆ **\*\*Offer basic cooking and baking courses\*\*** specifically for nannies.
- ◆ **\*\*Grow more edible vegetables\*\*** in the Grow Parkhurst garden.

We are eager to expand our offerings and continue fostering a supportive community for families and caregivers. Additionally, we aim to undertake the following initiatives:

- ◆ **\*\*Organize interactive workshops\*\*** that focus on child development and educational play for nannies and parents.
- ◆ **\*\*Host monthly meet-ups\*\*** for nannies to exchange experiences, share tips, and build a sense of camaraderie.
- ◆ **\*\*Collaborate with local schools\*\*** to establish after-school programs that promote creativity and learning.
- ◆ **\*\*Launch an online platform\*\*** dedicated to providing resources, tips, and forums for ongoing support and education.

We are dedicated to making 2026 a year of growth, learning, and community involvement. Together, we can create a positive impact and enhance the lives of the families we serve.

 @PARKS.NANNY.LINK

SAVE FOR LATER 



## Mindful Movement in The Parks –

*Create space to move gently, breathe deeply, rest, and reconnect.*

Yoga teacher: Lauren Wilshere has brought us together at several community yoga sessions in Verity Park, one at Parkhurst Village Fair. In addition, she also opened and closed one of Clean- Ups at 12<sup>th</sup> Street Park this year.



*The Parkhurst Village Fair at Verity Park, image taken by Captured by Nicole Photography.*



## ROSEBANK KILLARNEY GAZETTE

News ▾ Classifieds ▾ Lifestyle ▾ Motoring ▾ Sport ▾ Promotions ▾ Best Of About Us The Citizen



Home > News > Local news > Verity Park hosts weekly mindfulness and stretching sessions

Local news News

### Verity Park hosts weekly mindfulness and stretching sessions

A peaceful yoga session is helping Parkhurst residents pause, breathe, and reset every Thursday morning.

July 7, 2025

Naziya Davids-Easthorpe 1 minute read

Facebook X LinkedIn Tumblr Pinterest Share via Email Print



RECENT

Caxton Group



# mindful movement

A space to move gently, breathe deeply, rest & reconnect

Join us for:

The Mommies & Nannies of Parkhurst

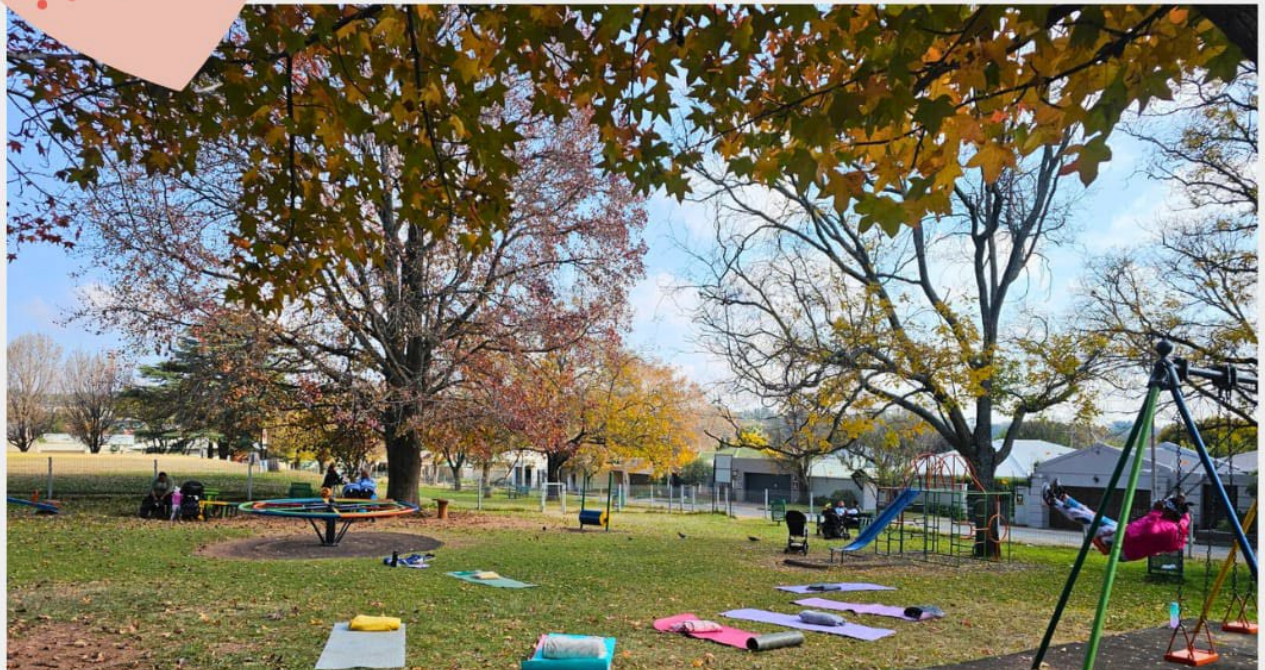
Thursday, 12 June  
Verity Park (Kids Area)

9:15 AM – 10:00 AM | Mommies  
10:15 AM – 10:45 AM | Nannies & Kids

Wear warm, comfortable clothing  
Bring a mat, blanket & some tea

I LOVE  
PARKHURST

This session is FREE!  
WhatsApp Lauren to RSVP | 081 563 5554





## Fundraising in the Park

As we end 2025, and move into 2026, PRABOA will work increasingly intentionally with partners to bring the community together in parks, as well as raise funds to sustain the maintenance required.

At present our list for potential fundraising/ community building activities include

- Sniffari Parks
- Mindful Movement / Community Yoga with Lauren Wilshere
- Creative activations in collaboration with the library / Grow Parkhurst
- Game's mornings
- Cinema in the park
- Art in the Park
- The Parkhurst Village Fair



*Left: Egrek Cinema activates the park at the Parkhurst Village Fair. (Image by Captured by Nicole) Right: Ruth activates the park and library boundary with her community tree project.*

# PRABOΛ



*The community together at Parkhurst Village Fair. (Image by Captured by Nicole)*

# PRABOΛ



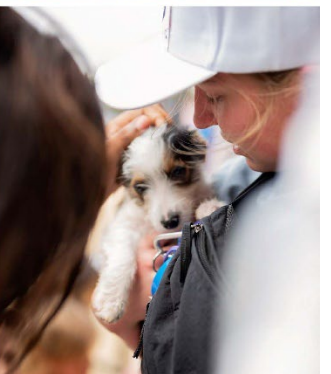
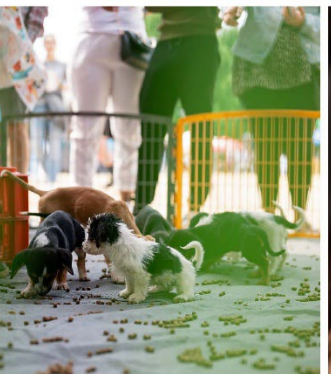
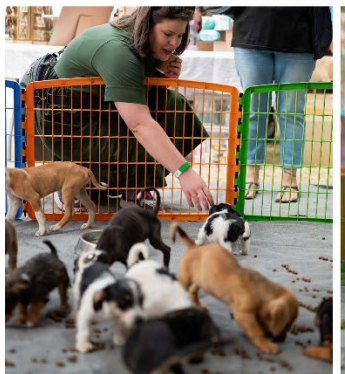
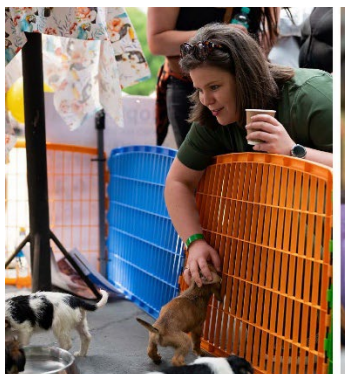
The community together at Parkhurst Village Fair. (Image by Captured by Nicole)

# PRABOIA



The community together at Parkhurst Village Fair. (Image by Captured by Nicole)

# PRABOΛ



The community together at Parkhurst Village Fair. (Image by Captured by Nicole)

# PRABOA





*The community together at Parkhurst Village Fair. (Image by Captured by Nicole)*

## Pilates in the Park 2025

It's happening ! Pilates in the Park - this time with a little "Tea" wist ! Come join the vibe of a strength and stretch in the beautiful Verity Park, Parkhurst!

Special guest appearances include @cupclassique , @whimsical.bites.by.han and the fab @helloleo\_planners - all women-owned businesses coming together for a little treat to kick off the festive season 🍷 Included in your ticket is a donation to I ❤️ Parkhurst (PRABOA) , keeping the Parks in check for us to roam and enjoy !

Book here:

<https://helloleoplanners.com/products/pila-teas-in-the-park>

Limited space available.



WELCOME TO .  
**PILA "TEAS"**  
IN THE PARK

**Saturday, 6 December**

7H30 - 9H00  
R250 PER PERSON

ROLL OUT YOUR MAT FOR A MORNING OF  
PILATES, PLANNERS AND SAVOURING  
SCRUMPTIOUS TEAS!

CONTACT NICKY ON 082 960 7426 FOR  
THE JUICY DETAILS!  
OR  
BOOK ONLINE

**HELLO SEA L**  
Hello Sea L

**I LOVE PARKHURST**

**CUP CLASSIQUE**  
NATURAL TEA

**ONR**  
PILATES



## Rise and Regulate 2026

Starting from January 2026, Lauren will activate Verity in the morning. Her plan is to encourage PRABOA membership signups, When her class grows to capacity, we'd discuss a contribution towards PRABOA.



RISE WITHIN

January 2026

### RISE & REGULATE YOGA IN VERITY PARK

Come to move gently, breathe deeply,  
elevate your energy and restore your  
nervous system

6 - 7am Thursdays

R150 drop-in class  
R120 for PRABOA members

WhatsApp Lauren for details and reserve a spot

081 563 5554





## Sniffari Parks 2026

In late 2025, we met with Sarah- Lee who presented Sniffari Park to us, this concept encompasses:

- Sniffing trails and enrichment stations
- Separate areas for high-energy vs. calm dogs
- Private spaces for reactive pups
- In the future, a little café for people and their pets, too!

Provided there are no objections, we would look at activating a pilot project with Sarah – Lee in 2026.



### VISION

**Sniffari Park- An adventure for every nose**

Our furry loved ones need more than just open space. They thrive on stimulation, safe socialization, and tailored play that meets their unique needs.


As a fur mum to both a reactive dog and an overactive puppy, I've seen firsthand how important it is to have environments that cater to different energy levels and temperaments.

That is the vision behind Sniffari Park.

To transform park grounds into safe, engaging zones designed for every type of dog.

**A one-of-a-kind sensory experience featuring:**

- Play areas to encourage exploration and fun.
- Energy-based zones to match dogs with suitable playmates.
- Private spaces for reactive dogs to enjoy enrichment safely.





## THE SNIFFARI EXPERIENCE



- Sensory Adventure Zones – agility, sniffing trails, enrichment stations.
- Energy-Based Play Areas – high-energy dogs vs. calm/relaxed dogs.
- Private Reactive Spaces – safe play options for dogs who need their own world.
- Future Add-On: Sniffari Café for humans & dogs.
  
- Minimal setup on the park's part: We adapt existing land.
- Open to flexible collaboration models (partnership, revenue share, event-based).
- Looking to pilot in one location.



(Sniffari Park mock up, taken from a business that supplies Dog Park courses)



## THE OPPORTUNITY



- Plain open fields don't always cater to different dog needs.
- Reactive dogs often miss out on enrichment because of a lack of safe spaces for them.
- Parks want to attract more visitors and build community.

**Solution statement:**

Sniffari Park enhances existing parkland with curated dog zones that create safer, happier, and more engaged visits for both dogs and owners.





## Pick up your dog poop campaign:

Please Pick up your Dog Poop –

Yes, you heard us, please pick up your dog poop. After an outcry about dog walkers walking on by after dogs have done their business on pavements, walkways, in parks and driveways, in collaboration with Nan Roberts we are trialling limited edition signage. Complimentary, while stocks last.

WhatsApp Nan Roberts to arrange collection: 060 973 4423





World Clean Up Day 2025:

## PRABOA

•••••

# PARKHURST



**INVITES YOU TO JOIN OUR NEXT PARK CLEAN-UP!**  
**SPONSORED BY NAN ROBERTS ESTATES**  
**IN COLLABORATION WITH BEING A RIVER**




**Join us at 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park to help clean up and collaborate around the health and wellness of our environment and waterways.**

**WHY IS IMPORTANT TO KEEP YOUR PARK CLEAN**

- A clean, well-maintained green space improves mental and physical health. It fosters community pride and a sense of connection.
- It discourages vagrants from settling in unkept areas which in turn discourages from criminals from hiding amongst them thus improving safety.
- It creates awareness and educates people of the impact of pollution and litter on the environment. **It brings a community together!**
- It can lead to communities calling for action and policy change like stricter laws around dumping and recycling.
- It helps us keep our waterways clean and free from litter.

If you would like to contribute to the cutting of the grass, river clean-ups and the on-going cleaning up of 5<sup>th</sup> Ave Park, please consider joining PRABOA. They will ensure that the park, together with Jozi Trails is regularly maintained. Without your support this would not be possible. Let's chat about how you can help between **8 am – 10:30 am at 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park**. If you cannot meet us on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September, please subscribe to contribute:  
<https://parkhurstvillage.com/subscriptions/>






**Michael Capela**  
**082 451 4597**







# PRABOA



PRABOA  
• PARKHURST



INVITES YOU TO JOIN OUR NEXT PARK CLEAN-UP!  
SPONSORED BY NAN ROBERTS ESTATES  
IN COLLABORATION WITH BEING A RIVER

# WORLD CLEANUP DAY

**SATURDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2025**

MEET @ 5TH AVENUE PARK

**8.00am:**

'Being a river' Introduction

**8.30am- 11:00am:**

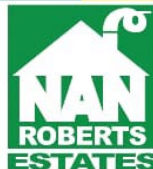
Volunteer Clean Up!

**Bring:**

Gloves, bin bags, tongs & water.

Being a river

URBAN BRAZA



Michael Capela  
082 451 4597





 **Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association**  
Published by Pauline Borton · September 23 ·

World Clean Up Day 🌍 Last week, our community showed off what local pride looks like! 🗑️ 70 bags of rubbish collected 🚛 2 bakkie loads hauled & 1 crab claw discovered 🦏, 5th Avenue Park got the love it deserves 🌱 From volunteers to pros like Bubele Africa & with support from sponsors like Michael Capella (Nan Roberts Estates), this was more than a clean-up, it was a collective commitment to caring for our space. Special thanks to Being a River 🌊 for adding depth to the day, sharing knowledge on invasive species & our connection to urban waterways. 🍕 8 Urban Braza pizzas later (Thanks Guys 😊), 6 new members joined the Park Care group 🗑️. That's a community in motion. That's Parkhurst.

[Jozi Trails Management Company](#)  
[Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association](#)






 **Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association**  
Published by Pauline Borton · September 14 ·



**WORLD CLEANUP DAY 2024**  
20 SEPT

WORLDCLEANUPDAY.ORG  
**World Cleanup Day 2024**

 [Global Partners](#) [Get involved](#) [About](#) [Donate](#) [Projects](#) [News/Blogs](#) [Numbers](#) [Join](#)


## Let's keep Parkhurst beautiful!

Let's keep Parkhurst beautiful  
Help us clean up 5th Ave park this World Clean Up Day!

Share this event on social media.


[f](#) [x](#) [in](#)

**LET'S KEEP PARKHURST BEAUTIFUL!**



EVENT ORGANISER:  
Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association (PRABOA)

ORGANISATION NAME:  
Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association

E-MAIL:  


LOCATION:  
5th Avenue Park, 5th Avenue, Parkhurst

DATE:  
2025-09- 8 am - 11

[https://www.worldcleanupday.org/event?name=let\\_s\\_keep\\_parkhurst\\_beautiful](https://www.worldcleanupday.org/event?name=let_s_keep_parkhurst_beautiful)



## Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association

Published by Pauline Borton · September 20 ·

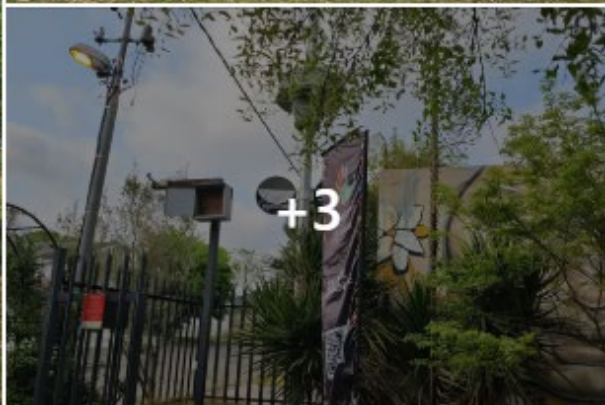


World Clean Up day underway at 5th Avenue Park, Parkhurst. Join us between 8 am - 10 am today.

In collaboration with [Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association](#), [Jozi Trails Management Company](#), [Incredible Edible Parkhurst](#), [Urban Braza](#) and [Being a River](#).

Sponsored by Michael Capella Nan Roberts Estates.

[#rivercleanup](#) [#WorldCleanupDay2025](#)





## Parkhurst Park's Clean Up's and Water Testing:

### **Parkhurst Park Clean – Up 2025, 12th Street Park, Parkhurst.**

**Sunday, 2 March 2025**  
**Press Release**

Volunteers were invited to spend 30 mins of their time to help keep Parkhurst clean, as part of [Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association](#) (PRABOA) community projects.

Our first clean -up was organised by two residents Vicky and Paula who are keen on looking after our green spaces, and invested in doing their part to help uplift and keep Parkhurst beautiful. 12<sup>th</sup> Street Park was selected for our first clean -up of 2025, and we were assisted by twenty volunteers and a team of five from Bubele Africa. Most participants spent the full three hours helping clear sections along the spruit and pathways in the park. The difference is noticeable and further evidenced in the rubbish bags which were disposed of by a local rubble collection service. Bubele Africa are Parkhurst's go too clean-up crew, and they did a phenomenal job of collaborating with our volunteers in the more complicated to reach areas along the spruit. With their waders, protective gloves, and reflective gear, it was clear that this was not Bubele Africa's first spruit clean up. A major achievement on the day was clearing the polystyrene filled section of the spruit, which was no mean feat. At the end of the day, we counted approximately eighty full bags of rubbish. That is quite an achievement for twenty-five people.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Street Park clean -up was a collaborative effort between [Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association](#), community volunteers, Bubele Africa, SafeParks and our sponsors Byron Thomas Properties team in Parkhurst.

This kind of low-key community activity makes a lasting imprint of the memory of Parkhurst's community as a social way of making a difference, as well as engaging with our natural environment. We hope over time days like these inspire more attendance of our planned park clean-ups throughout the year. PRABOA are in the process of arranging another park clean up on the 13<sup>th</sup> of April, which will bring together residents, volunteers, Bubele Africa and a Parkhurst spruit inspired research project Being a River. All our clean-ups are part of PRABOA's mandate to play a role in enhancing the quality of life for both residents and businesses in Parkhurst. The Parkhurst Park Clean-Up's are part of their dedicated efforts and community engagement, which go a long way to ensuring that Parkhurst remains a thriving and well-managed suburb.

Interested residents and community can follow PRABOA on Facebook for more information or contact Pauline via email: [support@parkhurst.org.za](mailto:support@parkhurst.org.za)

Facebook: [Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association | Facebook](#) and I Love Parkhurst.

Comment provided by: PRABOA.

Read more about it here:

"Parkhurst community rallies for a cleaner, greener future" (Naziya Davids-Easthorpe, 10 March 2025). Read more about this in the Rosebank Killarney Gazette

Link: <https://www.citizen.co.za/rosebank-killarney-gazette/news-headlines/2025/03/10/parkhurst-residents-unite-for-a-cleaner-greener-suburb>

Link: <https://parkhurstvillage.com/>



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Parkhurst Parks Clean Up and Water Conscious morning.**

**8<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

Volunteers met at 12<sup>th</sup> Street Park early on Sunday morning, facing a frosty start to the day with some warming Mindful Movement facilitated by Lauren Wilshere. A geology chat hosted by Being a River provided some food for thought. With the sound of the Braamfontein Spruit flowing rapidly over its bedrock of granite, we considered what this landscape was like 100 years ago, 500 years ago and then further back to billions of years ago when those rocks young. "Water shapes our land in ways that depend on the type of rocks. ... Each type of rock has a story to tell about how it was made," said Rachel Adatia.

With their curiosity renewed and bodies warmed up, the volunteers' work began. Small teams set off armed with bin bags and protective gear, working along the water's edge collecting plastic, non-organic debris and polystyrene that was embedded among the roots and trees.

The White Horse Scout troop set up a "tippy tap" in the park, creating a clever handwashing solution for our teams. This ingenious innovation is used all over the continent as a handwashing station where clean water 'on-tap' is a luxury. PRABOA often engages Bubele Africa to assist with our clean-ups and the Being a River dialogue has revealed a need for clean water solutions to wash their hands after they work along the spruit. The White Horse Scout troop donated this mobile handwashing station and explained how it was made so we can create others in the future.

Prime Plumbing sponsored the clean-up and Mica on 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue West discounted our gloves and rubbish bags. A special thanks to Bubele Africa who provided us with in-kind support. Our volunteers were made up of representatives and families from PRABOA (Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association), Being a River, Prime Plumbing, Jozi Trails, White Horse Scouts, Mindful Movement in Parks, Grow Parkhurst, Bubele Africa, and WaterCAN.

This was PRABOA's third clean-up, reflecting a growing group of participants and developing knowledge networks about Parkhurst's green spaces and its community. Our clean-ups are so much more than a clean-up and are starting to activate our environment in a social activity, which connects us while doing good. Change will never happen overnight, but our 12<sup>th</sup> Street Clean -up reflected some progress in a well-used Parkhurst Park.

As energy waned after two intense hours of cleaning up, the group headed up to nearby community garden; Grow Parkhurst/Incredible Edible next to Verity Park for tea and a chat about our waterways facilitated by Being a River.



IT'S GOING TO TAKE THE WHOLE VILLAGE!

PRABOA

I LOVE PARKHURST

02 MARCH 8AM - 11AM

# PARKHURST CLEAN-UP.

**Volunteer 30 mins of your time to help us keep Parkhurst clean**

**Meet:** 12th Street Park, Parkhurst  
**Date:** Sunday, 2 March 2025  
**Time:** 8 am - 11 am

**Bring:** your own tongs, protective gloves, bin bags, sunblock, sunhats, water, and wear sensible shoes and clothing.

**QUESTIONS:** [support@parkhurst.org.za](mailto:support@parkhurst.org.za)

We can provide letters for Community Hours.

Celebrating 120 YEARS OF PARKHURST



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As energy waned after two intense hours of cleaning up, the group headed up to nearby community garden; Grow Parkhurst/Incredible Edible next to Verity Park for tea and a chat about our waterways facilitated by Being a River.



We co-created a thought-provoking story about a water drop that evolved into a creative conversation about water-wise gardening, and the connections between rocks, water and soil, the importance of compost and mulch, and how plants even link us to geology through the minerals they provide in our food.

*“Being a river was awesome to me. I could see all the stuff that affect our water system, clothes, litter, bottles, plastic. After picking you could see the clear view of trees, grass and the birds. Instead of colours of plastic and pieces of cloth lying on the riverbank I could see sand and stones that need to be taken care of to save both water, soil and plants.*

*Most of the time in the river there is always small paths where people could cycle and run for exercise. Some come to sit alone to feel different sounds of wildlife that lives there.”* - a reflection from Langa Ndlovu.

Our collaborative network takes a short break over the coldest months, but we will return for our next clean up celebrating World Clean Up day in September 2025. Please reach out to us if you would like to get involved: [support@parkhurst.org.za](mailto:support@parkhurst.org.za)

## **BACKGROUND:**

### WHAT IS A WATER CONSCIOUS MORNING?

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of June, you are invited to join us at the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Park and Grow Parkhurst for a clean -up and a water conscious morning. This is the continuation of a creative conversation started by Being a River in April at 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park. It is about connecting with our waterways through storytelling, citizen science, resourcefulness, and imagination. Through this multidisciplinary collaboration we hope that solutions and networks emerge that will help us enhance the streams that flow through our parks.

### WHAT IS BEING A RIVER?

Being a River brings together citizen science with creative arts and collaborates with individuals and community groups to explore and find connections with our waterways.

So far initial activities have taken place in Albertville and Parkhurst with the support of PRABOA (Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association), Jozi Trails, Creative by Nature, Bubele Africa, and WaterCAN for water quality testing.

You can find out more about Being River [here](#) and WaterCAN [here](#).

On the 8 June we will gather at 12<sup>th</sup> Street Park for a litter clean up along Braamfontein Spruit and then convene for a creative conversation in the Grow Parkhurst community garden.

For more information: [support@parkhurst.org.za](mailto:support@parkhurst.org.za)

# ROSEBANK KILLARNEY Gazette

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**INSIDE: City wants to hear residents' voices. Page 2**

**INSIDE: Security industry up in arms. Page 3**



Vicky O'Brien takes a water sample from the tributary.



Gabriel Molepo shows the grass seeds he will scatter.

## Clean-up on 5th Avenue

Naziya Davids-Easthorpe  
naziya@parkhurst.org.za

Under the warm morning sun and the sound of running water in the nearby streams, residents, volunteers, and local business owners gathered for the second Parkhurst neighbourhood clean-up on April 13. Hosted by the Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association, the event took place at 5th Avenue Park, bringing together community members for a morning that combined hands-on work with environmental education.

The morning was elevated by the presence of Jozi Trails and Being a River, who facilitated a skills and knowledge-sharing session, covering topics such as the identification and removal of invasive vegetation, safety tips, and best practices for clean-ups. Participants also had the opportunity to take part in water quality testing.

Led by Jozi Trails director Jaco Louw and environmental coordinator Sam Brown, residents learned practical methods for caring for their park. They focused on identifying and replacing alien vegetation with indigenous trees. Support from within the community helped move the day along smoothly. A generous resident arranged for their gardener to mow the grass, improving access to the park for walkers. Another

resident sponsored the removal of several bags of rubbish, mostly plastic and other debris collected from the park and stream banks.

The clean-up marked the inaugural session of Being a River, a new initiative focused on exploring Johannesburg's water systems through both citizen science and creative expression.

Water samples were taken from the Bramfontein Spruit and a tributary by the team from Bubele Africa and local volunteers, guided by Dr Teresa Dirunweit, from the Department of Geography at Unisa.

Being a River will continue to test water quality at the same sites through WaterCAN's RiverWatch programme. Results are expected to be shared in the coming days.

Resident Vicky O'Brien noted, "The Bubele Africa team play an important role in reducing the amount of plastic and other debris along this part of the Bramfontein Spruit." After heavy rain, she explained, stormwater often deposited a "mantle of plastic and other debris", along the banks. After the citizen science activity, participants took part in a reflective group experience facilitated by residents Sally Clark and Rachel Adatia. The session encouraged individuals to tune in to the natural environment – its sights, sounds, and smells – and to reflect on their emotional responses. "It's a relief to see

the trees and bushes free from the plastic that the stormwater draped over them," said Adatia. Clark added, "It was good to sit and talk to members of the team, informally, about how these kinds of public places are important for all our well-being."

Association member Pauline Borton echoed the value of the effort: "With regular testing, we can help to monitor the health of our streams. Working so closely with

the water, it is important that Bubele team members are aware of the potential risks of polluted water and how to take necessary safety precautions."

The association plans to host eight clean-ups this year, and invites residents, volunteers, and partners to take part in future efforts to keep Parkhurst clean. Those interested can contact Pauline Borton at support@parkhurst.org.za.

**"It's a relief to see the trees and bushes free from the plastic that the stormwater draped over them."**

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## **Parkhurst Park Clean – Up 2025, 5th Avenue Park, Parkhurst.**

### **Press Release**

PRABOA (Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association) organised the neighbourhood's second park clean up for 2025. A total of eight clean ups are planned for 2025. In advance of every Parkhurst Park clean up, PRABOA extends an invitation to like minded networks, partners and volunteers to join in. Our communication for this clean up was designed by Lauren Wilshire who is a local resident and a poster making wizz. We were joined by Bubele Africa, our local river clean-up crew who arrived prepared with their waders, PPE and tools.

The Parkhurst clean-up on the 13<sup>th</sup> of April, at 5<sup>th</sup> Ave Park, was not only successful but also informative, due to the involvement of Jozi Trails and Being a River. All participants were invited to join a skills and knowledge sharing process about invasive vegetation, safety and best practices related to cleanups, as well as water quality testing. With help from Jozi Trails director, Jaco Louw and environmental coordinator, Sam Brown, we learnt about the removal of alien vegetation and the planting of indigenous trees. One of the things that we found interesting, is to remove the seeds from the highly invasive Bugweed plant before cutting it down. The flower heads and seeds should be put into a separate bag and stored for a few weeks until they die off and then they can be thrown away or composted. Jaco also recommended indigenous trees that can be planted and Sam showed us how to remove alien weeds properly.

We appreciated the help from a local resident whose gardener kindly mowed the grass which made the park more accessible for walkers. Another resident also sponsored the removal of several bags of rubbish. Most of which contained plastic and other debris from the park and stream banks.

The sun was shining, and the water was flowing strongly through the streams bordering 5<sup>th</sup> Ave Park. A perfect morning for the inaugural session of Being a River – an emerging initiative to explore our city's water resources through citizen science and creative arts.

The team from Bubele Africa and local volunteers took time out from their clean up work to learn about water quality testing. Water samples were taken from the Braamfontein Spruit and a tributary stream. Dr Teresa Dirsuweit, from the Department of Geography at UNISA, facilitated the testing process. Being a River will continue to do regular water quality monitoring at the same sites, as part of WaterCAN's RiverWatch programme. Look out for news of the results from WaterCAN in a few days' time.

Vicky O'Brien mentioned that The Bubele Africa team played an important role in reducing the amount of plastic and other debris along this part of the Braamfontein Spruit.

After heavy rain, the surge of stormwater leaves a mantle of plastic and other debris along the banks of the stream.

After the citizen science activity, participants flowed into Being a River's creative conversation process, developed by Sally Clark and Rachel Adatia. It included a reflective experience of tuning in to the natural sights, sounds and smells of the park, and sharing our thoughts and feelings. What brings us joy? What makes us despair? Why do we care?



Reflecting on the morning, Rachel Adata said "It's a relief to see the trees and bushes free from the plastic that the stormwater draped over them."

Sally Clark added, "It was good to sit and talk to members of the team informally about how these kinds of public places are important for all our wellbeing."

Pauline Borton reflected that "With regular testing, we can help to monitor the health of our streams. Working so closely with the water, it is important that Bubele team members are aware of the potential risks of polluted water and how to take necessary safety precautions."

Together with other community groups and organisations, Being a River aims to work towards a healthy Braamfontein Spruit that people enjoy and treat with care. It is part of the global network Diamonds on the Soles of our Feet – inspiring connection with nature through learning with the heart (see [ecolink.net.za](http://ecolink.net.za))

The Parkhurst community spirit was certainly evident on Sunday and the saying "every little bit helps" was clearly visible. For those wishing to get involved in future activities please contact Pauline at [support@parkhurst.org.za](mailto:support@parkhurst.org.za)

Authors/ contributors:

- Rachel Adata
- Sally Clark
- Vicky O'Brien
- Pauline Borton

Read more about it in Naziya Easthorpe's article in the Rosebank and Killarney Gazette in print and online:

<https://www.citizen.co.za/rosebank-killarney-gazette/news-headlines/2025/05/12/clean-up-on-5th-avenue-park>

Link: <https://parkhurstvillage.com/>

# PRABOA



## Parkhurst Clean Up!

A WATER CONSCIOUS MORNING IN COLLABORATION WITH 'BEING A RIVER'

**Sunday 13 April 2025**  
Meet @ 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park

**8.30am - 10.30am:**  
Volunteer to clean up (and enjoy a walk!)

**10.30am - 12pm:**  
Invitation to join us with Being a River in a creative conversation about our local waterways.

**Bring:**  
Gloves, bin bags, your own tongs, hats, sunblock & water.

Questions: [support@parkhurst.org.za](mailto:support@parkhurst.org.za)



## Clean Up!

A WATER CONSCIOUS MORNING SPONSORED BY PRIME PLUMBING IN COLLABORATION WITH BEING A RIVER

**Sunday 8 June 2025**  
Meet @ 12th Street Park

**8.00am :**  
Start the morning with a Mindful Movement session & an introductory chat on river geology.

**8.30am - 11:00am:**  
Volunteer Clean Up!

**11:15am - 12:30pm:**  
Gather with Being a river at Grow Parkhurst for a creative conversation about our local waterways.

**Bring:**  
Gloves, bin bags, tongs & water.

Questions: [support@parkhurst.org.za](mailto:support@parkhurst.org.za) PRABOA is authorized to certify community service hours





**Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association** Group expert 4d ·

**Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association**  
6d ·

Parkhurst Park clean-up!... See more



**Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association** 1d ·

Zooming in on a small section of today's 12th Street Park Clean-up. A polystyrene fill... See more



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Home / News / Local news / Parkhurst community rallies for a cleaner, greener future

Local news   Municipal   News

# Parkhurst community rallies for a cleaner, greener future

Residents and business owners rolled up their sleeves and took action to keep their beloved suburb clean.

March 10, 2025

Naziya Davids-Easthorpe 2 minutes read





## Collaboration with tenants and residents:

### Being a River:

How can we develop a deeper connection to the streams and waterways that flow through our city?

A connection that inspires action to care for water and moves us beyond litter clean ups.

**Being a River** is an emerging initiative to explore this question through storytelling, poetry, the visual arts and citizen science.

Together with other community groups and organisations, Being a River aims to work towards a healthy Braamfontein Spruit that people enjoy and treat with care.



Image by Captured by Nicole Photography showing a workshop participant at The Parkhurst Village Fair



Umesh Bahadur, Gabriel to check], and Langa Ndlovu engaged in creative conversation, as Tigger listens in (Photo: Sally Whines)



## Being a river

Reimagining the blue lines

**Being a River** is an emerging initiative that facilitates **creative conversations** about water. It engages with art and citizen science to explore our relationships with the streams and waterways that flow through our city. A vision of a healthy Braamfontein Spruit that people enjoy and treat with care guides the activities.

Being a River seeks to inspire actions that move us beyond litter clean ups, and connects us with other groups working along the waterways.

In 2025, PRABOA kindly invited Being a River to participate in three of its clean up days and engage members of the Bubele Africa Team and community volunteers in creative conversation. WaterCAN provided water testing kits.

### 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park, clean up on 13 April 2025 (featured in the *Rosebank and Kilarney Gazette*)

Rubbish removal immediately improves a place, yet the action taken by volunteers and members of the Bubele Africa team that morning went beyond a litter clean up. It included finding out how to encourage indigenous plants to grow on the stream banks to reduce soil erosion, testing the water to check levels of pollution, and simply enjoying being by the river and reflecting on our shared space.

*"It was good to sit and talk to members of the team informally about how these open spaces are important for all our wellbeing."*



#### Poem woven with participants' words

Come – step into our park  
 - we've picked up all the rubbish  
 - made it clean for **you**

Come – be in our nice clean space – it opens your mind  
 - takes your thoughts away from your phone

I saw a muddy chip packet ... I lost concentration, but then –  
 I heard the birds sing ... interesting ... the sound of water  
 ... river sand – how did that get here?  
 ... a sprouting potato! I will plant it ...  
 ... a piece of red brick ... what made it so smooth?  
 ... which bird lost its feather ...?

... noise from a lawn mower taming the environment ... but  
 ... smell the freshly cut grass ... ah!

seeds fly by in the wind ...  
 ... everything's connected



Little booklets given to each participant to remind them of their creative expressions and water testing process. Featuring artwork by Pauline Borton, which she created during the conversations on the day.

### 12 Street Park clean up 8 June 2025

On this frosty morning, after a warm up with some mindful movement, facilitated by Lauren, the creative conversation focused on geology of the spruit as seen from the park, and then water wise gardening and creative storytelling in the Grow Parkhurst garden. A tippy tap was made by members of the White Horse Scout group, that can be used to wash hands in the absence of piped water.

*"Water shapes our land in ways that depend on the type of rocks. ... Each type of rock has a story to tell about how it was made."*



*Once upon a time, there was a water drop ....*





## Water quality testing from 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park

As part of the Being a River initiative, three water tests have been made with the support of WaterCAN. WaterCAN kindly donated the testing kits that are made in South Africa by i-Lab.

The water testing site for the Being a River initiative is in the Braamfontein Spruit in front of the concrete block that has a green mark on it. The water is usually flowing here and it is accessible from the rocks below the footbridge, using the water collection stick if needed.

On 13 April 2025, a 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park clean-up day, Dr Teresa Dirsuweit, from the Department of Geography at UNISA, facilitated the testing process with the Bubele Africa team. Since then, two other water tests have been made at the site (27 June and 20 September).

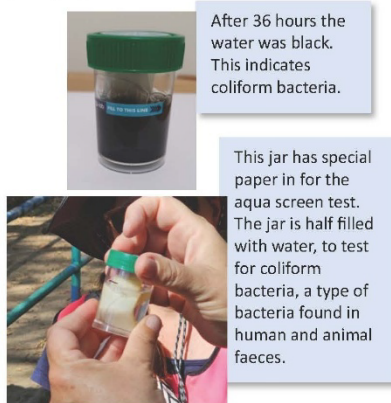
The testing process includes recording observations about the colour and smell of the water, any visible damage to plants and animals in the stream, and any signs of pollution or dumping. Testing strips are used to test the chemical parameters, see table below. In addition, two microbial tests are made – an aqua screen test and a petrifilm test (see photos below). All the microbial tests showed the water was unsafe for drinking or washing, as it had high levels of coliform bacteria, including *E. coli*.

The test results were submitted to WaterCAN via their website. Scientists from UNISA are collating the results from testing sites all around the country. Collecting such data is useful in order to see trends over time and make comparisons between different sites along the Braamfontein Spruit, and between different rivers and streams in South Africa.

*Table of results for chemical parameters – all within the ‘safe’ zones for drinking water, although the nitrite was on a border line (less than 1 ppm is safe)*

Parameter tested	13 April 2025 (10.30)	27 June 2025 (15.00)	20 Sept 2025 (11.30)
Phosphate ppm	0	0	0
Nitrate ppm (mg/L)	0.5	0.5	2
Nitrite ppm (mg/L)	1	1	1
Total hardness (ppm)	50	50	120
Total chlorine (ppm)	0.5	0	1
Free chlorine (ppm):	0.5	0.5	1
Bromine (ppm):	2	1	1
Total alkalinity (ppm)	80	80	80
pH	7.2	6.8	7.6

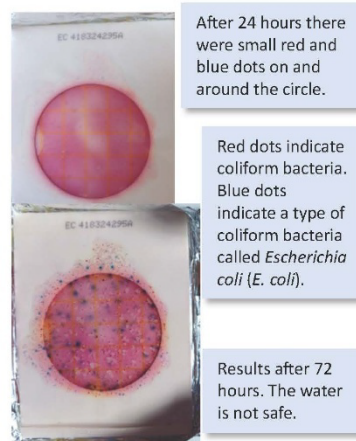
### Aqua screen test for coliform bacteria (13 April)



After 36 hours the water was black. This indicates coliform bacteria.

This jar has special paper in for the aqua screen test. The jar is half filled with water, to test for coliform bacteria, a type of bacteria found in human and animal faeces.

### Petrifilm test (13 April)



After 24 hours there were small red and blue dots on and around the circle.

Red dots indicate coliform bacteria. Blue dots indicate a type of coliform bacteria called *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*).

Results after 72 hours. The water is not safe.



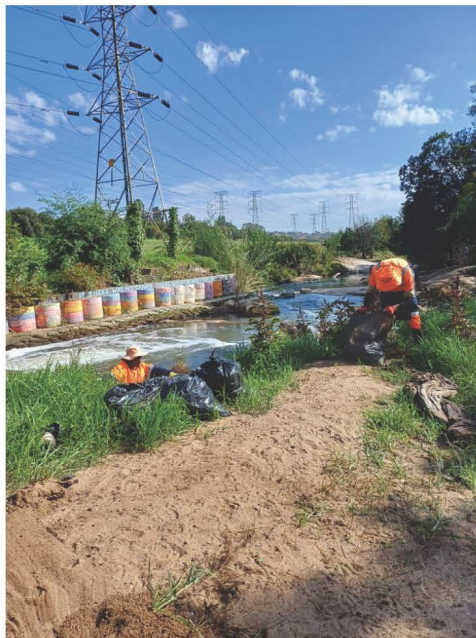
## Being a river

Reimagining the blue lines

*Being a River – where citizen science flows with creative arts*

Inspired by Diamonds on the Soles of our Feet (DSF), Being a River seeks to strengthen connection with nature through learning with the heart.

Responding to DSF's global call for community actions for water between Water Day and Earth Day (22 March 2025 – 22 April 2025), Being a River held its inaugural session on 13 April 2025, at 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park, Parkhurst, Johannesburg. It was integrated with a clean-up day organised by the local residents and business owners association ([PRABOA](#)).



Bubele Africa team members free the Braamfontein Spruit from the plastic and other rubbish draped over it by the city's stormwaters

Rubbish removal immediately improves a place, yet the action taken by volunteers and members of the Bubele Africa team that morning went beyond a litter clean up. It included finding out how to encourage indigenous plants to grow on the stream banks to reduce soil erosion, testing the water to check levels of pollution, and simply enjoying being by the river and reflecting on our shared space.

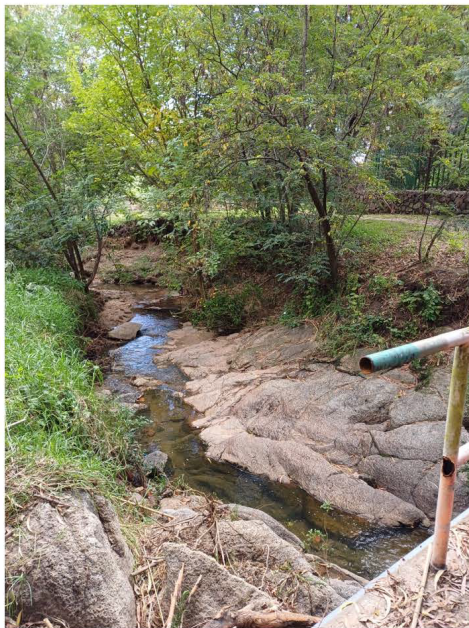


### *Caring for water by caring for plants*

Plants prevent soil erosion because their roots hold the soil in place and slow down the flow of stormwater. Some plants also help to clean water by removing pollutants. Some types of plants that grow by the stream are 'invasive' which means they spread quickly and crowd-out indigenous plants, and may take up a lot of water.

Sam Brown, the Liaison Officer from [Jozi Trails](#), showed us how to reduce the spread of bugweed and black jack, both invasive plants. "Cut the flowers and seeds off and put them in a plastic bag for a few weeks until they die, before composting them", she said. "Let grass and other plants grow to cover areas of bare soil, and gradually introduce indigenous varieties that are suited to this highveld wetland area."

When it comes to trees in the park, Sam cautioned "Before removing an invasive tree, plant an indigenous tree nearby, only remove the invasive tree after the indigenous tree is growing well."



A tributary stream of the Braamfontein Spruit flowing through the park, free from plastic and a bugweed that had rooted between the rocks in the stream



### *Our water, our health*

Johannesburg’s system of sewers and waste water pipes needs repair and maintenance. Streams get polluted from broken sewage pipes, and rubbish and chemicals washing into them through stormwater drains.

When working along Johannesburg’s waterways, the Bubele Africa team wear waterproof boots and gloves as safety precautions. However, how safe is the water in our streams for drinking and washing? To help us answer this question we needed to test the water quality.

Under the guidance of Dr Teresa Dirsuweit, from the Geography Department of UNISA, members of the Bubele Africa team identified two water testing sites in the park, and tested water for chemicals and coliform bacteria. The results showed that the water was not safe for drinking or washing.

Gabriel Molepo, Bubele Team leader, says “Regular water testing helps us to monitor the health of our streams. If we know the water is polluted, we can take precautions to protect our health.”

Over the next few months, Being a River will do regular water testing in the Braamfontein Spruit, as part of [WaterCAN](#)’s Jozi RiverWatch. In that way, we can alert the city council to incidents of pollution, and advocate for more investment in water infrastructure.



Teresa explains the water testing process

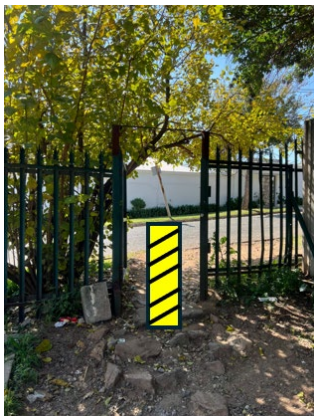


## Jozi Trails

In 2025, we started conversations with Jozi Trails about collaborating on maintenance along the Braamfontein Spruit. Jozi Trails have an agreement with JCPZ as well as the knowledge, tools and equipment required for the maintaining the larger parks such as 12<sup>th</sup> Street Park and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park.

In addition to maintenance, Jozi Trails can apply their expertise to landscaping and tree planting in parks, and resources permitting, we would work with them on special projects in this regard.

The following programme is under discussion, as well as continued investigation into bollards for the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Park entrance.

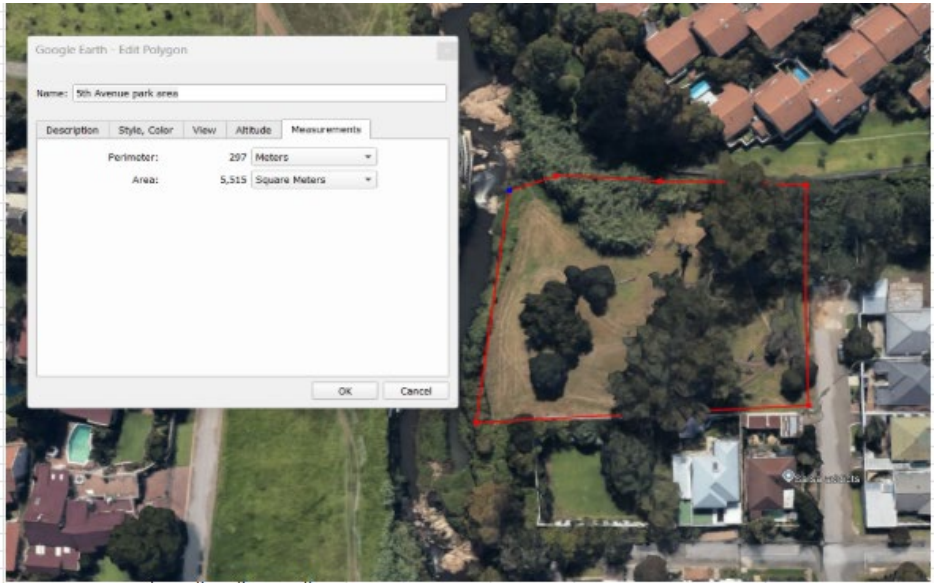


A sketch of a bollard at the 12<sup>th</sup> Street entrance

		<b>6 Summer months</b>
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Park</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Normal Cutting	5th Avenue Park	Twice a month in summer, once a month in winter
Removal of grass	5th Avenue Park	Summer every two weeks, Winter not required. Assume it is accepted at local dump
Pick up litter after heavy rains	5th Avenue Park	After heavy storms bringing litter onto the banks
Removal of litter	5th Avenue Park	Assume local dump will take it.
Normal Cutting	12 Street Park	Twice a month in summer, once a month in winter



Removal of grass	12 Street Park	Summer every two weeks, Winter not required. Assume it is accepted at local dump
------------------	----------------	--



5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park and 12<sup>th</sup> Street Park (boundaries for Jozi Trails intervention)

## Northstar Gymnastics:

Northstar Gymnastics and PRABOA intend to collaborate on a clean-up at the Recreation Centre, which includes the removal of the large steel clothing collection container along 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The project would be collaborative and co-marketed, and Northstar Gymnastics would seek funding via their database.



## Grow Parkhurst:

Grow Parkhurst continues to be a source of community gardening and growing. Over the course of 2025. They replaced signage, added in educational signage, worked more collaboratively with PRABOA and Bubele Africa. In addition, Grow Parkhurst hosted community workshops and facilitated walkabouts with The Nanny Link. The Nanny Link continues to use the garden for their weekly activities on Wednesday.

**GROW Parkhurst**  
Plants for people

**What do we do?**  
We grow food and herbs for free for the community.

**Who are we?**  
Volunteers. Most live in Parkhurst, some are honorary residents. Everyone can help in some way.

**What do our volunteers do?**  
Some plant, weed and water; some build boxes to plant vegetables in, others work on getting donations. Some design products that can be sold to support the community gardens. Other volunteers look after our compost and surrounding areas, keeping it free from litter.

**What we want to see?**  
The amount of food being grown in the neighbourhood increase as more and more people get involved and start their own gardens in their homes and on their pavements.

# What is Grow Parkhurst?

- ✉ [growparkhurst.garden@gmail.com](mailto:growparkhurst.garden@gmail.com)
- 🌐 <https://growparkhurst.garden/>
- 📷 @growparkhurst
- 📌 #IncredibleEdibleParkhurst



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This community food and herb garden is for everyone to share. Please pick what you need but leave some for others.

We are a community garden growing movement, and part of an ecosystem; we want to hear your stories.

Let us know what you cooked with the food or herbs, or how you felt in the garden, did you meet any bugs, birds or butterflies? Or see any fungi, lichen and moss on the trees nearby?

Help us maintain the garden with watering, weeding and planting. Support us with donations of compost, materials or volunteering to do a little handy work. Donate money, equipment, infrastructure or sponsor signage.

Offer to share your skills and knowledge with us.

Buy our products, join our workshops or activations. Keep an eye on social media pages for sales. All proceeds go towards maintaining the garden.

Follow us on social media and share our story with your networks. Get in touch to find out how you can help.

**GROW Parkhurst**  
Plants for people

## How can I support Grow Parkhurst?

✉ [growparkhurst.garden@gmail.com](mailto:growparkhurst.garden@gmail.com)  
 🌐 <https://growparkhurst.garden/>  
 @ [@growparkhurst](#)  
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Their own safety and security.

**HOW?**

Create safe and secure family friendly environments.

Clear pathways and communal areas from all obstacles and litter.

Learn from each other and share your skills.

Look after the garden tools, material and equipment.

Look after the plants and compost.

Look after yourself (drink water, wear protective clothing like garden gloves and closed shoes)

Collaborate with each other.  
Connect the community.

Remember, volunteers participate at their own risk, so it's in your best interest to look after yourself, and the garden areas.

Communicate with each other. Share ideas!

**GROW Parkhurst**  
Plants for people

## What are the volunteers biggest responsibilities?

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## THE COMMUNITY TREE CREATIVE WORKSHOP

### Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association's Post

**Parkhurst Residents and Business Owners Association**  
August 29 · 🌐

Art, Community & a Whole Lot of Heart!

The Nanny Link, a vibrant group of Parkhurst caregivers, kicked off the Fair's Art Competition with a joyful walk to Grow Parkhurst. Surrounded by colour, nature, and curious little minds, the kids found inspiration in the garden and began painting their entries right there on the grass. It was messy, magical, and full of meaning, proof that creativity lives in connection.

We're so proud to see this kind of community-led participation lighting up the Fair.

The Art Competition is open to all ages, and we'd love to see more neighbours join in.

Whether you're 5 or 55, grab a brush and be part of the story.

Submit your entry digitally: <https://forms.gle/ThP6r5fuc1H3xeV48>

Finalists will be showcased at the Fair on 27 September

Entry: R20 per person or group

Ticket to the Fair:  
<https://praboa.howler.co.za/parkhurstvillagefair>

[#parkhurstcommunity](#) [#ParkhurstVillage](#) [#parkhurstresident](#) [#parkhurstvillagefair](#)



## GARDEN DAY SA 2025

Grow Parkhurst celebrated Garden Day SA in collaboration with Etherealize. Inc Studios. Via a serendipitous meeting through the Parkhurst Village Fair, there are clear synergies between the creative energy from Etherealize Inc Studios and the therapeutic and educational value inherent our community garden. Etherealize Inc. provided a hands-on



artistic experience, that connected us to the garden through biodiversity bingo, natural light printing and making fairy gardens. It truly was a day that celebrated the garden, brought a new audience into the space, asked us to consider every layer of biodiversity, as well as sparked a collaboration that has potential for future activities.

Photographs: [Creative by Nature](#)

**IMMERSIVE LEARNING THROUGH PLAY**

**Presented by Etherealize.inc**  
IN ASSOCIATION WITH GROW PARKHURST

**GARDEN DAY**  
my garden your garden our garden  
an immersive learning experience about the biodiversity and  
uplifting spaces for it to thrive within our local landscapes

**SUNDAY , 12 OCTOBER 2025**      **START FROM 09:00 - 11:00 AM**

**etherealize.inc**  
**Gardenday.co.za**



Garden Day 2025



# PRABOΛ



Garden Day 2025



## GROW PARKHURST AT THE PARKHURST VILLAGE FAIR 2025

A note to PRABOA from Grow Parkhurst:

*Thank you to all the wonderful people who visited our stand at the Parkhurst Village Fair yesterday. It was lovely to meet you, and we are very grateful for your support of the Grow Parkhurst Community Garden with your plant purchases and donations.*

*Congratulations to PRABOA, the organising team, volunteers, sponsors and the awesome Bubele squad for a fabulous fair! Hope this becomes an annual community event again. Thanks Ulrich Janse van Vuuren for the super photos 📸*



Bubele Africa, following a small workshop on how compost works, have been engaged by PRABOA to assist Grow Parkhurst with compost maintenance, as this system enables PRABOA to send organic waste from Clean- Ups to the compost containers as opposed to the rubbish dump, this also meant that when PRABOA and fellow collaborators worked on the Ablution Clean Up, all ready compost from this area had a site to go to and was integrated into an existing system as opposed to sending it to the dump.



**NO food waste**

**NO takeaway packaging**

**NO plastics**

**NO other litter**

**GROW Parkhurst**  
Plants for people

**What not to compost**

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**GROW Parkhurst**  
Plants for people

**COMPOST CYCLE**

Organic materials from the garden are added to compost container

**COMPOST OPEN**

Broken down by tiny creatures like wood lice, centipedes and earth worms

**BUG HOTEL**

Decaying matter is activated by natural chemicals like green nitrogen

Mycelial networks develop showing microorganisms at work like fungi and bacteria

**COMPOST CLOSED**

Over time the organic materials are broken down so that they start to resemble soil, with a peaty earthy smell.

This is placed in our garden in order to feed it, sustain and regenerate it. And to the cycle starts again.

**COMPOST OPEN**

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**GROW Parkhurst**  
Plants for people

**Tips for making your own compost:**

- Soil / sod / existing compost
- Grass clippings
- Green leaves
- Autumn leaves / dry grass / dead flowers/ plants
- Soil / sod / existing compost

More: leaves, small twigs / sticks, dead flowers and grass clippings

Less: large clumps of grass, sod from pavement/ curb side and old soil

Very little: avoid invasive plants / large sticks or branches (please break down or soak in water for a week and add)

1. A spade or two of ready compost will help activate your cooking compost, and carry the good microorganisms, red wigglers and fungi across to a newer bin.
2. Autumn leaves / dry grass / dead flowers/ plants.
3. Grass clippings/ green leaves.
4. Turn compost regularly exchanging the wet more mature decaying matter for the drier matter on the top.
5. Remember to replace the mulch on top and water well.

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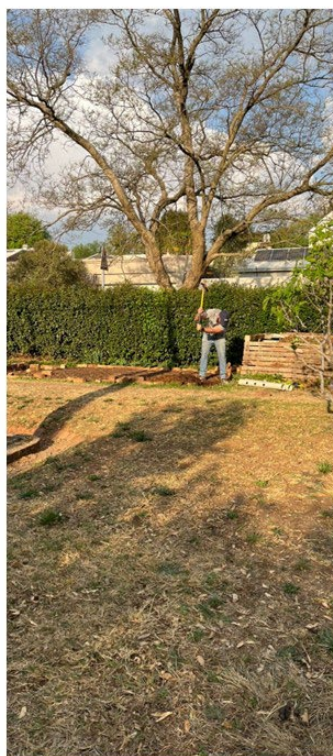
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082 451 4597



Towards the end of 2025, Grow Parkhurst welcomes two families who have voluntarily offered to do community hours and set up an allotment style garden as a test. The first allotment garden is thriving and as we enter 2026, Grow Parkhurst will develop proposals for further community engagement and support.



# PRABOΛ



# PRABOA



In November 2025, Grow Parkhurst used proceeds from their stall at the Parkhurst Village Fair to pay for Jozi Trails to assist them with converting six smaller beds into three mini allotments as part of pilot project which will encourage community participation and support of these plots. In 2026, once a business model is defined for the activation of these allotments, Grow Parkhurst will work with PRABOA on this plan.



*The Nanny Link at Grow Parkhurst 2025*

# PRABOΛ



The Nanny Link at Grow Parkhurst 2025



## 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park Care Group:

The 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park Care Group was formed in October 2025 and is made up of residents who have attended several clean-ups and have a vested interest in the well being of the park. Some of the residents live nearby. Our first planning meeting took place in mid-October 2025, and to weeks later week engaged Jozi Trails to assist with maintenance after the rain.



Bottom image: 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park after Jozi Trails had been at work



**BRAAMFOUNTEIN SPRUIT**

## 5th AVENUE PARK

**SafeParks (24/7)**  
Call - 011 444 2237

**Open** | 4am  
**Close** | 7pm

Walk  
Run  
Ride

In partnership with

Scan to  
Donate and  
support  
maintenance:

zapper (Pty) Ltd. 2014/012345678

Scan for  
tips on using  
the trails  
safely

Disclaimer: Jozi Trails Management Company, PRABOA and Johannesburg City Parks & Zoo accept no liability for any damages or loss of whatever nature you may suffer to your person or to any of your assets.

Michael Capela  
082 451 4597

securing Parkhurst

Rough draft of proposed signage for 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park, which would form part of a larger Biodiversity education campaign over time.

### Responses to the question: What would you like to see in the park?

Wishlist from the Park Care Group	Proposed solution / notes
<b>Maintenance</b>	
Litter/ rubbish bins	Ask waste picker to assist and ask Pick it up to remove. Engage a service provider Find out Region B schedule
<b>Safety and Security</b>	<b>Report concerns to 24/7: 011 444 2237</b> <b>Ask security to point out areas of vulnerability</b>
Grass Cutting	Engage a Service Provider Gardeners assist Find out Region B schedule
Tree pruning	Engage a Service Provider Gardeners assist Find out Region B schedule



Remove Invasive Plant species	Engage a Service Provider Gardeners assist – Jozi Trails provide education Find out Region B schedule
Pick up Dog Poop	Encourage dog walkers to clean up??? Signage
<b>Activation</b>	
Plant indigenous trees	Work with Jozi Trails
Animal Safe Litter Bins	Industrial designer/ Being a River creative workshop
Murals	can mural act as kids’ activity space
Kids Activities	Consider a day in the park
Community Yoga with Lauren	Consider a programme and how we activate space, and how we use the space.
<b>Access / Safety</b>	
Signage (park rules, who to call, safety tips, biodiversity info)	in collab with Jozi Trails
Wheelchair access at pedestrian gate	remove two pavers and level ground a bit / ask Jozi Trails to help on 7 <sup>th</sup> Nov?
Pave Pathway	discuss with Jozi Trails / pavers in storage
Reinstate benches	are these acting as gabions / discuss with Jozi Trails who have said they can help us move benches
Rail along footbridge	Jozi Trails cannot help/ be aware the railings may wash away. Not sure what solution is here as it is considered an illegal structure, and rails might be washed away in flood season. Some of the group have access to workshops, materials and skill set which can help with the railings. TBC

On the following pages, we propose solutions and activations, each table shares potential cost and the complexity of managing the process. From here we can decide as



a group what to tackle first and in what order. The intention is not to overwhelm you, but rather to present the big picture, from here we can divide it up into manageable pieces.

## Proposed Solutions:

**Monthly Maintenance:** grass cutting, litter/rubbish removal, weeding, pruning trees etc.

	Local Gardeners	Jozi Tails Team req.	Day	Potential Cost
Evey second Sunday			Sundays	Local gardener
Jozi Trails (first one sponsored by S )		1x Fri a month	Friday	3200.0
			per week	0.0
			per month	3200.0
			per year	38400.0
<i>*JCPZ schedule in a rubbish collection every second week and grass cutting once a month, but this is not reliable.</i>				

**Weekly Maintenance:** Litter, Rubbish Bins, Clearing Pathways/Access , Weeding and picking up dog poop

	Days	Who/what	Day	Potential Cost
Litter collection and rubbish removal	1	Pick it up / local bakkie hire	Monday	365.0
Pick up dog poop, tidy up, and keep park litter free	3	Consider Jolly Walker - 1/2	Mon - Friday	750.0



		days across the week		
Poop Bags - refill per week				250.0
Rubbish Bags				110.0
			per week	1475.0
			<b>per month</b>	<b>5900.0</b>
			<b>per year</b>	<b>70800.0</b>
<b><i>*What is not collected by Pick it up would need to go to the rubbish dump</i></b>				

**Park Care Community Days:** the neighbourhood is invited to participate in local activation, helping us maintain the park, carry out water testing, as well as continue creative conversations with Being a River about our waterways. This day is social, educational, and impactful.

<b>March</b>	<b>Bubele Team req.</b>	<b>Jozi Tails Team req.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Cost for workforce only</b>
Park Care Community Day: 5th Avenue Park	8		7 March	2280.0
Removal of Rubbish (1 load)				400.0
Disposables: Gloves, Rubbish Bags, Water etc.				600.0
<b>April</b>				
Park Care Community Day: 5th Avenue Park	8		18 April	2280.0
Removal of Rubbish (1 load)				400.0



Disposables: Gloves, Rubbish Bags, Water etc.				600.0
<b>June</b>				
Park Care Community Day: 5th Avenue Park	8		6 June	2280.0
Removal of Rubbish (1 load)				400.0
Disposables: Gloves, Rubbish Bags, Water etc.				600.0
<b>August</b>				
Park Care Community Day: 5th Avenue Park	8		1 Aug	2280.0
Removal of Rubbish (1 load)				400.0
Disposables: Gloves, Rubbish Bags, Water etc.				600.0
<b>*Water testing to happen over a period of 12 months at 5th Avenue Park, where possible these will align with our clean up days so Bubele can join us.</b>				
			per clean up	2680.0
			per year	10720.0
<b>Activation and Awareness (tbc)</b>				
		<b>purpose</b>	<b>Cost Implication (Low - High)</b>	<b>Logistical Complexity (Low - High)</b>



Safety and Security walk with 24/7 & Jozi Trails	2025/2026	awareness/ empowerment/ designing for safety	Low	Low
Community Yoga with Lauren	Weekly or bi - weekly	how we want to use our parks	Low	Low
Park Fun Day - picnic	Feb 2026	how we want to use our parks	Medium	Medium
Biodiversity and Invasive Plant Species - learning through community days / with Jozi Trails/ Being a River	Park Care Community Days	Storytelling, Environmental Awareness	Low	Medium
Open Streets / Open Spaces	Winter 2026	Storytelling, Environmental Awareness	High	Low
Indigenous Planting	Arbour Day?	Storytelling, Environmental Awareness	Medium	Medium
Spruit Day (World Clean Up Day)	20 Sept	Storytelling, Environmental Awareness	Medium	Medium
<b>Signage</b>				
		<b>purpose</b>	<b>Cost Implication (Low - High)</b>	
General Signage (important phone numbers, maps etc.)		awareness/ functional/ fundraising/ rules	Medium	



Biodiversity signage		Storytelling, Environmental Awareness	Medium	
Murals		storytelling, placemaking and community building	High	

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## Networks and Support Available

Collaborators and Networks	
PRABOA (Parkhurst Residents Association)	
I Love Parkhurst	
Jozi Trials	
Nan Roberts Estates	
Being a River	
Residents	
Volunteers	
Grow Parkhurst	
Community Yoga with Lauren	
Various Vendors from Parkhurst Village Fair	connect with kids' activities
Creative by Nature	
<b>Support available from PRABOA – on a case-by-case basis/ resources permitting.</b>	
Co-ordination / Project management	



Networking / identifying collaborators	
COJ fault tracking and follow up for 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Park	please log faults and send ref no.
Communication and marketing	
Safe Parks / public safety	
Help with fundraising / management of budgets and payments	

---

## An overarching list of communication 2025:

- Archives and databases of faults (tracking, logging and documenting)
- Posters
- Events and activations
- Press Releases and photographic archive
- Facebook groups and PRABOA's Facebook page.
- Calls for public participation
- WhatsApp Street Groups / Notice board
- Newsletters

---

## Proposed Community Activation Programme for 2026:

### Weekly Programme:

- The Nanny Link
- Rise and Regulate

### Bi- Weekly or Bi- Monthly

- Outdoor Networking morning (Vicky's Veganry tbc)
- Bi-Weekly Clean-Up with Bubele Africa
- Safe Parks education/awareness tbc. (Interaction with K9 unit, See Something Say Something, update signage and safety tips)
- Park Care



## Annual Goals:

- Open Streets (research and planning for 2027)
- Litter Traps for 12<sup>th</sup> Street Park (Braamfontein Spruit)
- Collaboration with Craighall Residents Association on a Hamilton Park activation.
- Grow Parkhurst Allotment Project/ with educational starter kit
- A collaborative project with the Parkhurst Library in mind

## Community Groups to support via projects and activations:

1. 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park Care group
2. Grow Parkhurst
3. The Nanny Link
4. Clean – Up Crews (volunteers / Bubele Africa)
5. Jozi Trails
6. Being a River
7. Northstar Gymnastics

## Example of a programme:

January	<b>10<sup>th</sup> January – open</b> Kick - start Parkhurst Village Fair planning <b>Special Project:</b> Parkhurst Library upliftment (stories, art and creative businesses)
February	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Park Care activity</b> <b>Parkhurst Recreation Centre:</b> Clean – up and removal of steel container
March	Park Care Clean Up 1
April	Planning month
May	Park Care Clean Up 2
June	<b>Verity Park Activation/ Parkhurst Library</b>
July	Park Care Clean Up 3
August	Park Care Clean Up 4
September	<b>Parkhurst Village Fair (26<sup>th</sup> September)</b> <b>World Clean Up Day (20<sup>th</sup> September)</b>
October	<b>Parkhurst’s Trick or Treat (31st October)</b>
November	<b>PRABOA AGM (19<sup>th</sup> November)</b>
December	11 <sup>th</sup> December – break for the festive season



**We are looking for partners who want to:**

- Network and nurture long term collaborative relationships.
- Co-brand and communicate with our community via common good practices.
- An opportunity to support micro interventions/ volunteer led projects.
- Support and sponsor sustainable practices for the neighbourhood.
- Support us by building our subscriber/membership database.

## Contact Details:

Queries: [support@parkhurst.co.za](mailto:support@parkhurst.co.za)

WhatsApp: 082 329 9619

Website: <https://parkhurstvillage.com>

Subscribe: <https://parkhurstvillage.com/subscriptions/>