



## Newton Park Crime Prevention Forum

NEWTON PARK GLENHURD ADCOCKVALE EXTENSION

# CPF Community News

Issue 4 - November 2008

### ***Be careful, prepared and aware***

The holiday season is a time when busy people can become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime. We need to be more careful, prepared and aware as the roads and shops are busier than usual. Although the SAPS and all security officers will be working together to assure a safe environment for all of us, we are still responsible for our own safety. Young people are particularly vulnerable to certain types of crime and have their own perspective on which crimes matter most. It is therefore important to warn them of potential dangers and temptations when visiting entertainment areas so they can make healthy choices. *Read safety tips on page 2.*

Our neighbourhood watch teams have gone from strength to strength and have been instrumental in a number of successful arrests. They rely on the community to be their ears and eyes and would like to thank those who support them in this regard. Police vehicles are also regularly on patrol in our area. Visible policing is the only successful way to reduce crime and improve community safety.

The neighbourhood watch had their first night time patrol on Wednesday 19 October which was a huge success (*read report below*). Further patrols are being planned, for more information or to join the neighbourhood watch team contact Emile Terblanche at (041) 3652119 / 0827880320.

There will be no newsletter in December and our final meeting for the year will be on Tuesday 11 November. We thank those who sent e-mails alerting us to suspicious people and activities in our area. This is a community newsletter and news, ideas and comments are always welcome. Have a safe holiday and wherever you are, remember to stay alert.

**CPF Manager**  
Inspector K. Pietersen 8 – 4pm  
Tel: (041) 3638382 / 0823020562

**Chairperson:**  
Mike Williams

**Vice-Chairperson:**  
Rozanne Biggs

**Neighbourhood Watch:**  
Emile Terblanche 8–5pm  
(041) 3652119 / 0827880320  
6–6am 0835441344

Monty Brown  
0833638888

Flying squad 10111

**PLEASE DO NOT GIVE MONEY TO STREET CHILDREN AS THIS ENABLES THEM TO BUY DRUGS, ALCOHOL AND GLUE. RATHER BUY A R5 VOUCHER TO GIVE TO THEM. THIS WILL ENSURE THEM A BED, MEAL AND SHOWER AT THE NIGHT SHELTER IN HILES STREET (OFF KEMPSTON ROAD)**

## First Night Patrol

Lynne Crothall

**We had our first night patrol from 23.00 on Wednesday 19 October until 1.00 Thursday morning.**



*Top: Members being briefed before leaving on patrol*

### **HAVE YOUR SAY**

We would like to hear from you. Send us your suggestions or crime related stories.

**PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME FINAL MEETING FOR THE YEAR**  
11 NOVEMBER 2008 AT 6PM  
NEWTON PARK METHODIST CHURCH HALL  
CNR. 3RD AVENUE & NEWTON STREET

- Crime Report
- Feedback & Activity Report
- Schedule of Projects

A large group of members met at the Glenhurd Supermarket at 22h45 (10.45pm) for our first night patrol of our suburb. Three Police vehicles joined us, led by our Forum Manager Inspector Kenny Pietersen and Superintendent Tafeni. As all the Police Officers who joined us were actually off duty but are very committed to combating crime, we thank them for their time and dedication to us, the citizens of Port Elizabeth.

We left our meeting point just after 23h00, three vehicles were allocated Newton Park south and the rest of us patrolled Newton Park north and Adcockvale Extension. The roads were very quiet, which was pleasing.

Inspector Pietersen reported that the stats released for the night we were on patrol showed that there were no dockets opened, so no crime in our area. Evidently, the neighbouring areas were targeted by the criminals that night. It just goes to show that visible policing is the answer to the crime problems.

From reports received, our patrolling drew a lot of attention and people who were not involved have been inquiring about what was going on. Hopefully will see some of them at our future monthly meetings!



*Season's Greetings*

and best wishes for the coming year

MIKE WILLIAMS – CHAIRMAN

To remove your name from our mailing list, please send an e-mail to [lynda.m@absamail.co.za](mailto:lynda.m@absamail.co.za)

## Safety tips

The holiday season is a time when busy people can become careless and vulnerable to theft and other holiday crime.

•Don't accept help from strangers when drawing money from an ATM. When leaving an ATM or bank, be aware of being followed. If followed drive to your nearest police station for assistance.

**If you are planning a holiday away from home, don't let the rush and excitement make you careless in protecting your home from potential criminals.**

•Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes and make sure you set your alarm.

•Pack your car in the garage away from prying eyes.

•Store your valuables that you leave behind in a safe, if you have one.

•When leaving home for an extended period, have a neighbour or family member watch your house and collect your newspapers and mail.

•Check that your alarm is working properly and notify your alarm company of the dates when you will be away and contact details of any person who will be looking after your home.

•Indoor and outdoor lights should be on an automatic timer, if possible.

**The following two articles were received from a very reliable source**

### New drug used in crime related incidents

In a recent incident a female driver was having her car filled up at a filling station when she was approached by and handed a business card by a person stating that he was a painter looking for work. Being receptive she took the card and drove off. Two things happened, she started feeling disorientated within a short span of time and noticed that she was being followed by the same person and another male person in a car. She was able to pull into a near driveway and hoot for assistance, this caused the vehicle following her to drive past. It was found that the card was laced with a new drug, "BURUNDANGA" which is four times stronger than any known date-rape drug and in use for purposes of rendering potential victims helpless prior to a crime being committed. This is not in any way meant to create the impression that this can happen to you on every such occasion but when such a card is offered in circumstances or at a place you would not normally associate with such distribution, please do be cautious.

### Vehicle theft alarm by-pass attempt

It has recently come to the fore that certain vehicle theft syndicate members use the process of monitoring and whilst the driver / vehicle owner is away from the car, attach a magnet to the bonnet and that it has an influence on the vehicle alarm allowing them to force the door / ignition without any alarm being activated.

From Riana  
**Chairperson of Richmond Hill CPF**  
**Subject: Black Velociti Golf**

Dear all

*Re: urgent please read and pass on*  
 I would like to warn everybody that my house was broken into while I was in church, the guy is a white guy and he drives a black Velociti Golf DMX 839EC. He was seen again watching people's houses in Lorraine, Kamma Park, Weybridge Park and Kragga Kamma Park. He is patrolling and watching houses to break into them, he is also been seen with two young black men. This only happens between 8am and 2pm. A red Honda Ballade CCG 864EC is also involved in break-ins. Please forward this to as many people as possible, so we can bring these men to justice. It has been reported to the police but both number plates belong to other cars. Contact Walmer Police Station if you have seen these suspicious guys or Phone Amanda 0829648994

### Letters to the editor

Just a small warning of the latest way criminals operate, very inventive!! It really happened to one of the neighbourhood watch members. The criminal dress in black & cover themselves in black bags and then get into your property. When SAPS or the neighbourhood watch drive pass they crouch down on the ground to make it look like a full black rubbish bag. SAPS etc ignore the "black bags" and drive pass. The criminals then either wait for the home owner to come home to hijack them or proceed to break into the house.. Please be aware & beware of "moving" black bags!!!- particularly on rubbish removal days.

The neighbourhood watch member who noticed this wouldn't have known any different if one of the bags hadn't moved and if he wasn't vigilant.

*Rean Theron*

### YOUNG PEOPLE AND SAFETY

- If possible, always tell someone where you're going and what time you are expected to return.
- Don't walk in dark unlit places.
- Never accept a lift from someone you don't know.
- Don't accept a drink or cigarette from a stranger. There might be drugs involved.
- Don't leave your valuables unattended.
- Cellphone theft:** There is a trend of walking and 'mixing-it' - it is an immediate draw card and something that robbers will capitalize on as your attention is focused on the cellphone and not your immediate surroundings.
- Asking the time - In most instances cellphones are in your hand and used to check on and give the time. DON'T DO THIS! Use your wristwatch or say you are sorry you don't have the time and walk away.

## Crime Report – Inspector Pietersen

Although crime has decreased by 10% in our area this year, we still have the following problems:



- ARMED ROBBERIES, HIGHJACKING
- BURGLARY FROM RESIDENTIAL/BUSINESS PREMISES

(problem days and times

- Wednesday, Friday and Saturday - 6h00–9h00, 9h00–12h00 & 15h00–18h00)

(problem areas: Burt Drive, 5th Avenue, King Edward Street, Pickering Street, 4th Avenue & Shirley Street)

**The two suspects in the White Mazda Rustler bakkie that's been robbing people of their cellphones have been arrested.**

**On 17th October Charlie Liston, Monty Brown and Mr Payne arrested someone with 157 pieces of aluminium and 2 pieces of zinc in his possession.**

### Beware: Greenacres hit by hand-bag snatching gang

A friend of ours was sitting in Dulce Greenacres, when three black men entered and sat at a table. They immediately started querying prices and drawing attention to themselves. While this was going on, a 4th man entered, slipped past our friend's table, and scooped up her handbag and casually walked out. Fortunately one of the waitresses noticed something was amiss, and with the help of a colleague gave chase. They caught up to him outside Greenacres, just outside Demo Warehouse. With the assistance of a car-guard, the assailant was dragged back and handed over to security.

10111 was phoned numerous times with promises that a vehicle had been dispatched, but the SAPS only arrived some 2 hours later. During this waiting period, two more bags were snatched, plus a wallet, a car was broken into and another stolen - all at Greenacres. So watch yourself and be alert at all times. We also believe that a similar syndicate is operating in Walmer Park, so ladies be warned - keep your handbag close to you and lookout for these unruly threesome that draws attention to themselves so that their partner-in-crime can grab your handbag.

*Megan Zondag*

### News in brief ....

**Inspector Pietersen's Dad has suffered a stroke. We wish him a speedy recovery.**

**PROJECTS** – Volunteers needed for neighbourhood watch, nightly patrols, block champs (in some areas), fundraising & new project ideas.

**COUNCIL MATTERS** – All municipal matters/issues/concerns can be reported to either Clr. Dacre Haddon at 041 3671670(w) / 0796943788 e-mail: haddon@mandelametro.gov.za OR Clr. Chris Roberts 041 - 3732971 / 082 3048531 ward7@mandelametro.gov.za