



## Newton Park Crime Prevention Forum

NEWTON PARK GLENHURD ADCOCKVALE EXTENSION

# CPF Community News

Issue 3 - October 2008

### NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH IS NOT A SHORT TERM PROJECT, IT'S A WAY OF LIFE

The SAPS work extremely hard in trying to prevent the property related crimes but with their limited resources, struggles to control the upsurge in crime.

We've all had enough of crime and should stop blaming, complaining and criticising each other. Irrespective of the level of recorded crime, a fear of crime exists at many levels of society, especially among the elderly who feel most vulnerable. In areas where **Neighbourhood Watch Schemes** have been established, both the actual level of crime and the anxiety generated as a result have been reduced substantially. People feel more secure in the knowledge that their neighbours are acting in conjunction with the SAPS to provide additional protection for their area.

The prevention of crime, particularly crime involving residential properties, is a responsibility that must be shared equally by SAPS and private citizens. The impact on crime prevention by the SAPS alone is minimal when compared with the power of private citizens working with the SAPS and with each other.

When citizens take positive steps to secure their own property and neighbours learn how to report suspicious activity around their homes, break-ins and related offences decrease dramatically. A **Neighbourhood Watch program** provides a sense of security for individuals or families who leave their homes for any length of time.

We have two **Neighbourhood Watch groups** operating in our area, Monty Brown and Emile Terblanche and their helpers. **Volunteers are urgently needed by Emile's group for the 6pm-6am shift. Evening**

**patrols are also being planned by Riaan Theron. If you are interested in joining one of these groups please phone Emile at (041) 3652119 / 0827880320 or call at Glenhurst Supermarket.**



Rozanne Biggs and Emile Terblanche

**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

**REMEMBER TO REPORT  
ALL SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOUR  
OR PERSONS TO  
THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH  
OR 10111**

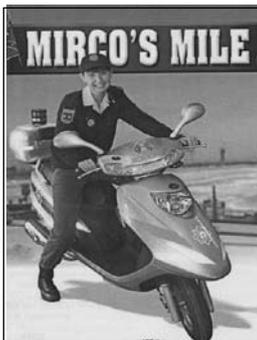
**BEWARE – increase in  
highjackings – refer page 2**

### PLEASE NOTE NEW TIME

OUR NEXT MEETING  
14 OCTOBER 2008 AT 6PM  
NEWTON PARK METHODIST CHURCH HALL  
CNR. 3RD AVENUE & NEWTON STREET

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

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)



## SPONSOR A POLICE SCOOTER & FIGHT CRIME

Co-ordinator of this project is CPF Vice-chairperson Rozanne Biggs – e-mail [rozannebiggs@yahoo.com](mailto:rozannebiggs@yahoo.com).

Mirco van Eck was a young 17 year old motorcycle enthusiast who was tragically killed by a drunk driver on 24 August 2007. Mirco cared highly for people and had an extreme dislike of criminal activities. His vision was to generate funds to purchase motorcycles/scooters for the South African Police Services to make them more mobile and visible.

For this venture to be introduced into our area we need donations and sponsorship. Apart from sponsoring or donating a motorcycle/scooter, corporates will have their brand name promoted at a far lesser cost than advertising. Contact Rozanne for more information.

## Thand'usana Babies Safe Home

The Newton Park Methodist Church has stepped in to help abandoned babies in Port Elizabeth. Thand'usana Babies Safe Home – which means love a baby, will provide a place of safety and love for abandoned or abused babies from birth to the age of two years. While looking after their physical, psycho-social, spiritual, medical and educational needs, it will also be a temporary safe haven for a maximum of six babies at a time. We've invited the co-ordinator, Audrey van Wyk, an ordained minister, to our October meeting to tell us more about it.

### HAVE YOUR SAY

We would like to hear from you.

Send us your suggestions or crime related stories.

## Beggars – Motorists to be prosecuted

'After trying and failing to get beggars off the street, Durban officials have now decided to target kind-hearted motorists, a news report says.

**Durban** - Durban motorists who give money to beggars at intersections and traffic lights face being prosecuted, the *Daily News* reported.

According to the report, the city's municipal manager Mike Sutcliffe said: "It certainly takes two to tango. Providing support to illegal street vending and beggars is a violation of the Road Traffic Act as well as traffic bylaws."

He said the city had tried taking many of the women, who were using their children to beg at intersections, to register for grants. However, within days they were back at the same intersection pushing their children to beg from passing motorists.

"We now want to take action against motorists. We have tried targeting one out of the two groups in the past and that has not worked," Sutcliffe was quoted as saying.

The report did not say how the city's metro police intended enforcing the relevant bylaws or how much the fine would be for giving to beggars.'

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)

## Highjacking – Safety Tips

- Check out the scene. When you walk towards your car, look around you. Check if you're being followed. If you're not sure, go past your car, or go into a shop or other establishment. Keep your keys ready in your hand.
- Lock up behind you. Once inside the car, lock the doors immediately and start the car. Don't open windows wide enough to allow a hand to fit through. If you think someone might be following you, don't go home, but drive to the nearest police station.
- Keep to the middle. When approaching an intersection, drive in the centre lane to make it harder for people to approach you. Leave enough space between yourself and the car in front that you can manoeuvre around it.
- Check behind you. Monitor all vehicles travelling behind you. There could be more than one vehicle involved and they could be setting a trap for you. If you think you are in danger, attract the attention of other motorists or pedestrians. Use the hooter, flash your lights, put on your emergency lights and shout.
- Fender-bender fiasco. If your car has been hit from behind, stay in your car. Once you are sure it's not a hijacking, get out and inspect the damage. Hijackers often dent a car in order to get the driver out of it.
- Stranger danger. If a suspicious person approaches you, especially at night or in a deserted area, drive off quickly from a stop street or intersection, but do pay careful attention to the traffic.
- Traffic light terror. Be on the lookout for anyone approaching your car, or lingering at traffic lights, stop streets, parking areas or driveways. Don't be distracted by vendors or people handing out flyers at intersections.
- Samaritans can get robbed. Accident scenes can sometimes be set up as a trap. Don't stop unless you are convinced it is real. It has happened in the past that 'injured passengers' turn out to be hijackers. If you are unsure of what to do, drive to the nearest police station and report the incident.
- Coming and going. Ensure that the area around your gate is well-lit. When opening your garage door or gates, don't leave your car door open and the engine running. Criminals can act much faster than you expect. Many hijackings occur while victims wait for the gate to open. If there are suspicious-looking people hanging around, drive round the block or phone your security company. Don't take any chances.
- Roadblocks for real? If you encounter an unusual or unexpected roadblock, keep your windows closed and doors locked. Ask the police or traffic officer for an identity card. Show them your identity document through the window.
- The real thing. If you are being hijacked, try to stay calm, follow instructions, but look scared. The hijacker wants to feel he has power over you. Don't stare at the hijacker – this could be interpreted as defiance. Don't argue, or scream, especially if you suspect he may have a weapon. Rather give up your car.
- No sudden moves. If you need to reach inside your pocket or bag to get something the hijacker wanted, warn your hijacker beforehand, but make sure that he can see

your hands at all times. Answer all questions truthfully and ask the hijacker to repeat something if you do not understand.

- Don't be a cowboy. Do everything to convince the hijacker that you are co-operating. If you annoy a hijacker, he may take out his aggression on either you or your passengers.
- Follow instructions. If you are told to get out of the car, wait for the hijacker to open the door or wait until instructed to do so. Open the door slowly with one hand keep the other hand visible. Once outside slowly move away from the car so as not to appear as a threat.
- Take note. Make mental notes of the hijacker's appearance, how many there are of them and any of their physical characteristics that stand out. This could help you later in identifying them.
- Child alert. If there is a sleeping child in the backseat, alert the hijackers. Reassure them that the child is not a threat and would make things difficult for them. Wait until instructed to release the child.
- PIN numbers. If you are forced to accompany the hijacker in your car, this is usually to make sure that no anti-hijacking devices are triggered. If they ask for PIN numbers on cards, give it to them.
- Once he's gone, get away from the area as quickly as possible, and get to a phone to call for help

**ON DAILY DUTY AT ALEXANDER ROAD HIGH**  
**The tide is turning; criminals are being forced out of the area, making it safer for learners when leaving the school grounds. We must be unyielding in our pursuit of Safety, Security and in re-establishing respect for one another and enforcement of the law.**



**Back row: Mr Payne & Inspector P. Harmse**  
**Front row: Monty Brown, Supt. Tafeni, Emile Terblanche & Inspector K. Pietersen.**

## Letter to the editor

Last month two black males robbed a driver at gunpoint in Russell Road and escaped in his green Toyota Corolla '91 model. A short while later a member of the public was attacked by three black males one of them armed with a 9mm pistol in Newton Park as he got out of his vehicle to make a deposit at the bank. They drove off in a green Toyota Corolla. The two crimes can be directly linked due to the discovery of the hijack victim's bank cards and drivers license in the public toilets in Newton Park near the scene of the attempted robbery. The suspects involved are said to be thin and young of age and were dressed in blue overalls with one wearing a reflective jacket normally worn by car guards.

– Vicky Joubert, 9 September

## Crime Report – Inspector Pietersen

- CAR THEFT** is a HUGE problem. On 8 October Constable Mancam, Sargeant Baleni, Inspectors Harmse and Pietersen arrested someone trying to steal yet another car in Greenacres parking area. The suspect was also in possession of a stolen car from Langlaagte in the Western Cape.
- BURGLARY FROM BUSINESS PREMISES,**
- ARMED ROBBERIES, HIGHJACKING is also a big problem.**

**The only way that we will overcome this scourge is if we all work together and try our utmost to find lasting solutions. We urge everyone, especially business owners/managers to become part of this forum and help make it happen.**

## Nigerians arrested

The three gun wielding Nigerian robbers who traumatised many residents in Mill Park, Richmond Hill, Newton Park and Walmer have finally been caught. In all cases they followed their victim home and robbed them at gun point of their cellphones and cash. A young Newton Park couple and a neighbour fell victim to them last month. Last year a resident in 2nd Avenue, was also held up and robbed by Nigerians as she pulled up in front of her house. They were probably the same guys.

## MATER DEI CHURCH

337 CAPE ROAD

## Jubilee Garden Fête

25 October 2008

Starting 6.30 with 3.6km Fun Run  
 Stalls plus entertainment for the whole family

Phone 082 846 1459 for more info

## News in brief ....

**CONDOLENCES** to Emile Terblanche & family on the passing of his dad and uncle.

**SPEEDY RECOVERY** to the wife of Monty Brown who has been in and out of hospital ... AND to all who are recovering from illness.

**THANK YOU** to Inspector Pietersen, SAPS officers, neighbourhood watch teams, block champions for your dedication to the cause. WE SALUTE YOU!

**END OF YEAR EVENT** – Operation Light and braai is being planned for November. Details to be confirmed.

**PROJECTS** – Volunteers needed for neighbourhood watch, nightly patrols, block champs (in some areas), screening of domestic workers, newsletter, 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