



# Newton Park Sector Crime Forum

NEWTON PARK GLENHURD ADCKOCKVALE EXTENSION

www.pe.co.za

## Community News

AUGUST 2009

### A Safer & Crime Free Community

*Crime won't go away but the good news is that it has come down in our sector. Thanks to our patrol team, security companies and the SAPS who regularly patrol our streets and to our neighbourhood watch who is always on duty to respond to callouts. It is however not the time to sit back and become complacent. Always be safety conscious wherever you go, check that your house alarm is functioning properly and have a plan in place in case of a highjacking or break-in.*

*We all dream of living in a crime free and safe neighbourhood - this can be achieved if we all stand together against crime and watch out for each other. Many elderly are not able to attend our monthly meetings but can become our eyes and ears by reporting any suspicious character or activity - make sure that they have our neighbourhood watch numbers and keep it near the phone - and please look out for them.*

### Caritas Senior Centre

A very pleasant morning was spent with the seniors at Caritas on Wednesday 15 July. Grateful thanks to the SAPS, especially Capt. Rheeder who gave them self defence advice.

### Beveilings maatrëels vir jou huis

deur Freddie van Wyk

Daar is 3 beginsels wat ingedagte gehou moet word met huis beveiliging.

1. Skep die indruk dat daar niks in jou huis is wat gesteel kan word nie.
2. Maak dit ontmoontlik vir die inbreker om vas te stel of die huis bewoon word of nie.
3. Oortuig die inbreker dat dit nie die moeite werd is of sal wees om by jou huis in te breek nie.

Wat ingedagte gehou moet word om die bogenoemde te staaf is dat jy as huis bewoner die beginsel van misleiding moet gebruik deur hom te laat glo dit is ontmoontlik en nie die moeite werd om by jou huis in te breek nie, bv. onthou wat die Britte en Amerikaners gedoen het tydens die tweede wêreld oorlog met die Duitsers gedoen het en nagemaakte tenks en vliegtuie gebou het om hulle te laat glo die aanval gaan om 'n sekere tyd en plek gebeur wat toe nie so gebeur het nie.

**NEXT MEETING**  
**4 AUGUST 2009 AT 18h30**  
NEWTON PARK LIBRARY AUDITORIUM  
4th AVE. (OPPOSITE PICK'NPAY)  
•Crime Report  
•Alerts  
•Various projects  
•Forthcoming events

**PLEASE** would all residents who have put their black bag out for collection take them inside again. We are all aware that the Municipal workers are on strike, and it will not be collected. It means that our 'local shoppers' will be checking them out and creating a mess - not only that, but it is illegal!

### Patrollers

Spare a thought for our dedicated patrollers, using their own resources, out in all kinds of weather, protecting your neighbourhood. If you see their cars on the road, please feel free to stop them for a chat. Anyone interested in joining this successful team, please call Lynne Crothall on (041) 3654671 / 0835187268.

**Sector Manager**  
Inspector K. Pietersen 8 – 4pm  
Tel: (041) 3638382 / 082 302 0562  
Flying squad 10111  
**Chairperson:**  
Rozanne Biggs  
**Vice-Chairperson:**  
Basil Mclean  
**Secretary**  
Lyn Marsh  
**Treasurer**  
Claude Campbell  
**Fundraiser**  
Deon Engelke

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**  
**24 hr Rapid Response Officers**  
*Newton Park South*  
(daytime) 8–6pm  
Emile Terblanche/Cliffie Leat  
(041) 3652119 / 082 788 0320  
(after hours) 6–6am 0835441344  
*Newton Park North*  
Monty Brown/Charlie Liston  
(all hours) 0833638888  
**Patrol Co-ordinator**  
Lynne Crothall  
(041) 365 4671 / 083 518 7268

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### HAVE YOUR SAY

Anything to report?  
Contact [lynda.m@absamail.co.za](mailto:lynda.m@absamail.co.za)  
Tel. (041) 3653653 / 083 365 3424

OUR BANKING DETAILS  
Newton Park Sector Policing Forum  
A/c No: 74219145072  
Branch: FNB Newton Park Code: 261050

**Advertising**  
To advertise in this newsletter for a minimum donation of R100 please phone 083 3653424 or send an e-mail to the editor

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)

## Protect yourself

•Never walk around alone after dark. If you have little other choice, keep to well-lit streets even if it's the longer route.

•Never talk to strangers and always be aware of strange people or cars, whether you're at the mall or in a deserted car park.

•When you leave home, always let someone know where you're going and approximately how long you'll be gone for.

•Women: never ask men you don't know for directions, instead ask at a garage, shop or business.

•Never enter an ATM or phone booth without being fully aware of who's around you. Never enter one in which you could be trapped or surrounded and avoid ones in isolated locations or late at night.

•Learn emergency numbers by heart and programme them into your cellphone on speed dial.

•Be especially wary around unlit entrances to buildings. It's a common tactic for criminals to use in such situations.

•If you think you're being followed, make a sudden turn, cross the street, pick up your pace or head to the closest public, well-lit place where you can get help.

•If someone attacks you, scream "FIRE!", unfortunately, yelling "rape" or "help" isn't as effective in getting attention from those who may be nearby as they'll flee for their own protection.

## Protect your home

•Always keep doors and windows locked, especially when no one's home.

•Reinforce doors with iron grille gates protected by a metal clasp and a strong closed-shackle padlock.

•Install a burglar alarm in the house with infrared detectors around it. These will automatically switch on lights in the case of an intruder.

•Cut back undergrowth, trees, bushes or shrubs that may provide cover for intruders close to the house. Be vigilant with this around your driveway to deter potential hijackers.

•Ask callers for proof of identity. If they're genuine they won't mind and will have it on them, usually displaying their photograph.

•Beware of callers attempting to distract you by claiming that they've seen someone or something untoward in your front garden, only to get you to leave your house.

•If you're home alone and there's a stranger at the door, never open the door to them unless you're perfectly satisfied with a legitimate reason.

## Protect your cash

•Avoid using ATMs after dark- try remember to draw your cash during the day

•Never accept assistance from a stranger. If someone tries to "assist" you and you feel it'd be safer to play along, punch in an incorrect PIN number and leave immediately!

•Always shred your till slips and any document that includes personal information such as credit card details or ID numbers.

## Protect your life, then your car

•Never allow your car to be boxed in by another. Allow enough space for a quick escape!

•Always drive with your windows closed and doors locked. And never stop for a hitchhiker or someone that appears to be stranded.

•Avoid accepting anything from vendors at intersections, whether it's a pamphlet or window wash.

•If you're bumped by another car, assess the situation and whoever's in the other car. If the situation gives you a funny feeling, jot down the car's registration number and description. Signal for the other car to follow you and drive to the nearest police station or a busy, well lit area.

•Whenever you get out your car, be sure to take your keys, phone and wallet with you and stay alert.

•Slow down to a stop, leaving enough room to manoeuvre around other cars if there's any chance for danger so that you can get away.

•If an unarmed stranger threatens you and gets into your car, run the car into a wall, parking metre or anything to bring attention and hopefully, rescue.

If you're ever in the unfortunate situation where someone threatens your life or safety and demands your possessions, give them over and get away as soon as possible. Possessions can be replaced while your life cannot.

**REMEMBER TO REPORT  
ANY SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOUR  
OR PERSONS TO ANY OF THE  
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH  
NUMBERS LISTED ON PAGE 1 OR BY  
CONTACTING OR 10111**

**This is a series of events from a Newton Park business that pieced together a well planned burglary which took place in broad daylight, while an employee was still in the building.**

It shows that some more sophisticated thieves watch every move and, contrary to most opportunistic burglaries, strategically plan how to break in.

"On Tuesday 30 June at 5:12pm an unknown man entered the premises of a well known Newton Park business. With the assistance of video footage, the following chain of events can be determined:

- An unknown male suspect approached the building from the street. He can be seen observing the departure of staff members at closing time.

- One vehicle was still in the parking area, this however was not a deterrent.

- The suspect used some sort of instrument to open the front door of the building.

- While inside the building he insured that the front door remained slightly ajar, for a speedy exit. In the video footage he is clearly seen acting very nervous.

- The man then managed to gain entry to an office where he stole a cell phone and then moved to the training room where he took a proxima.

- The entire time the suspect was in the building one of the staff members was in her office.

- She heard a sound in the reception area, believing that it was a colleague leaving for the day, so she called out.

- Receiving no reply, she went to investigate.

- The suspect then got a fright and fled the building with the stolen goods.

Interesting Facts:

- Once he had gained access to the building, he stood for some time in the reception area. He would have been able to pass himself off as a prospective client, had he been approached by any staff members.

- He carried a folded newspaper, and produced a plastic packet from his pocket in which to carry any items he took.

- He did not allow for a confrontation, but instead chose to flee the scene.

- He appeared very well dressed.

- He had observed the departure of the staff members from an observation point a few meters up the street.

- He appeared undeterred by the presence of the surveillance cameras.

The incident was reported to the police and a case of housebreaking and theft has been opened. The investigation is ongoing and anyone who has had similar incidents can please report it to the SAPS or ATLAS so that when he is arrested the

### COUNCIL MATTERS

All municipal matters/issues/concerns can be reported to Clr. Chris Roberts  
041 - 3732971 / 082 3048531  
ward7@mandelametro.gov.za  
Clr. Retief Odendaal 082 462 0668  
ward6@mandelametro.gov.za