



Newton Park Sector Crime Forum

NEWTON PARK GLENHURD ADCOCKVALE EXTENSION

Community News

MARCH 2009

Vote for a new committee

A new committee will be elected at this month's meeting. Please attend this very important meeting and nominate your person of choice. The following nominations have already been received: Rozanne Biggs - *Chairperson*; Basil McClean - *Vice-Chairperson*; Helen Markow - *Secretary*; Claude Campbell - *Treasurer*; Lynne Crothall - *Patrol Co-ordinator*; Emile Terblanche, Cliffie Leat; Montague Brown, Charlie Liston - *Reaction/Quick Response Team*; Dean Engelke - *Fundraising & PRO*.

All members have a role to play in making this forum successful and in assisting the committee in reaching their objectives and improving relationships between the community and the SAPS.

The tide is turning; criminals are being forced out of the area. There can be no slacking in our combined efforts, and resolve to take back what is ours!

Warning from the Fernglen / Sunridge Park Sector Crime Forum

Please contact Inspector van Huyssteen on 082-302-0553 if you see any behaviour that is similar.

LESLIE CLEMENCE

"I would implore each and everyone with children that attend school to please read this and take careful note. On her way home after dropping my granddaughter at school, my daughter saw a white van standing in Canna Road, Sunridge, there was a driver in the van, a second person standing behind the van and a third person standing on the opposite side of the road. Two little children were walking to school (they were late!!!) and the man behind the vehicle spoke to them and took them to the side of the van. The man on the opposite side of the road now started walking towards the road. One of the men suddenly looked up and saw my daughter - who had stopped to make sure the children were safe. The two men ran and got into the bakkie and they raced away!!!"

PLEASE people, do not let your children - whether 5 or 20 go to school alone. Take them there and make sure that they are safely in the grounds of the school before leaving. These are your children and you are responsible for them. With the world in such terrible turmoil, we don't ever want to hear that a child has been kidnapped and sold - if they are lucky to survive that long after some maniac has had hold of the child. These people are ruthless.

I have spoken to the lady who witnessed the incident and she is still very shaken. She truly believes that these children were seconds away from being abducted. It was two young children (perhaps grade 1 or 2), a little boy and a little girl. They may have even been twins they were so similar. If your children were late for school on Tuesday 3 March, it may have been them.'

DEADLINE

Crime or community related articles for publishing to reach Lyn at lynda.m@absamail.co.za on or before the 25th of each month - Tel. (041) 3653653 / 083 365 3424

To remove your name from our mailing list, please send an e-mail to lynda.m@absamail.co.za

Sector Manager
Inspector K. Pietersen 8 - 4pm
Tel: (041) 3638382 / 082 302 0562

Chairperson:
Mike Williams

Vice-Chairperson:
Rozanne Biggs

Secretary
Helen Markow

Neighbourhood Watch:
Emile Terblanche 8-5pm
(041) 3652119 / 082 788 0320
6-6am 0835441344

Monty Brown
0833638888

Flying squad 10111

NEXT MEETING

10 MARCH 2009 AT 18h00
NEWTON PARK METHODIST CHURCH HALL
CNR. 3RD AVENUE & NEWTON STREET
•Crime Report
•ELECTIONS

Crime Report

Theft out of motor vehicles and burglaries from business premises is still a problem with an increase in residential break-ins. According to reports, most of the burglaries were from premises owned by the same person and had very little security. (See pg2 for tips on how to prevent house robberies)

Hijacking

Hijackers are now tying electronic gates with cable ties. When you arrive at your gate, it will not open. You then get out of the car to inspect the gate, and that's when they strike. If the gate doesn't open, drive away and phone your security company, get help or check if you can see cable ties.

The hijackers even throw eggs at your vehicle, hoping that you will slow down to put your wipers on. Once you put your wipers on, you cannot see a thing as the eggs smudges your screen badly. This is just what the hijackers wants. They stand a few metres away, and once you've pulled over, they take your car. Maybe even your life.

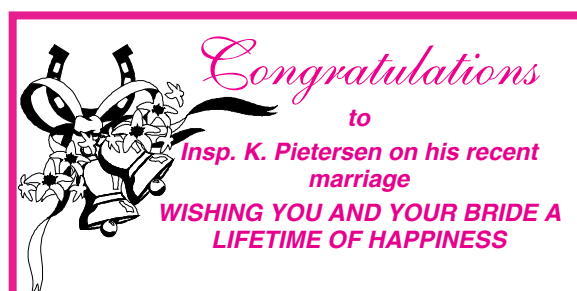
If this happen to you, keep going, open the window slightly, put your head out the window for vision and just keep going until you get to a safe place.

Hijacking Survey

FROM LEIGH ARMSTRONG

IN ORDER OF MOST WANTED VEHICLES ACCORDING TO HIJACKING SURVEY

- 1) Toyota Hi Ace 1119 per month
- 2) Nissan 1400 507
- 3) Toyota Hi Lux 497
- 4) Toyota Venture 270
- 5) Toyota Corolla 209
- 6) Nissan H/Body 141
- 7) MITS Colt 125
- 8) Isuzu KB 280 122
- 9) Isuzu KB 250 114



Street Children

There is a big problem in Port Elizabeth with street children begging at traffic lights and harassing shoppers at shopping centres. Many police hours are wasted on call outs to attend to issues involving these children. They are chased out of one area just to come back again the next day or they go to another area.

Pastor Kenny Robinson from Siyakatala is involved in 'street children ministry', together with the help of a permanent social worker, Yogi Williams has been successful in rehabilitating these children and in some instances reuniting them with their families. In a recent interview with him, he had the following to say:

"This is a social and governmental problem and should be treated as such. Aids, alcoholism, poverty, lack of parental control are some of the main reasons these children run away from home. I've also identified some mothers who have taken their children out of school and forced them onto the streets to make money by begging and prostituting themselves. There should be a system in place to prosecute these parents.

I've recently met with the SAPS executive committee in order to approach this problem more holistically with the ultimate aim of re-socialization and family re-unification.

Talks are ongoing as the children can only be taken to a youth centre by order of the courts and it is hoped that we will eventually be able to work hand in hand with the authority to re-unite them with their families, prosecute guilty parents and get the children from problem backgrounds into centres where they will be rehabilitated.

I'm most concerned that the six week's planned school shutdown during the world cup will see more children leaving their homes to live on the street, resulting in more crime.

It must also be remembered if this problem isn't curbed, it will grow even bigger - street children will become street adults and before we know it there will be more street children."

All of us can help in one way or another - DON'T SUPPORT THE STREET CHILDREN BY GIVING THEM MONEY rather support the various Youth Centres, like the ACVV Khayeluthu Youth Centre, 5 Du Toit Street, North End - Tel: 041-4845667 desperately need funding for various programmes.

RATHER GIVE A HAND-UP THAN A HAND-OUT.

Teach your family to be security conscious with regard to locking gates and doors, assertiveness with strangers, awareness etc.

Tips on the prevention of House Robberies

It would be appreciated if you could assist the SAPS in providing the community with these preventative measures. It is no secret that House Robberies are happening on a regular basis and we need to inform the community what they can do to keep themselves and their property safe. CAPT S JANSE VAN RENSBURG - 041 394 6358

- Never open the door automatically whenever the bell rings or if someone knocks, make completely sure the person wanting to enter is expected. Domestic workers, garden staff and children are often approached by robbers who act as telephone or TV repairmen, electricians, plumbers, TV license or municipality inspectors and many other professions. In an effort to gain entrance robbers use a cell phone and make as if they are talking to the owner of the house so as to put pressure on unsuspecting victims to open the gate or door. Those remaining at home should be made aware of these scams. Emphasize the need for security to your domestic worker, so too ensuring his/her own safety. Arrange with people who remain at home on how you will inform them if there is a need for them to open the house for deliveries, maintenance work or repairs. Always use the procedure and inform the companies involved that they will not gain access unless you have made a specific arrangement.
- A watchdog is a good early warning system. Keep it visible as deterrent but beyond the reach of strangers. The unexplainable death of a watchdog is a warning sign of a possible burglary.
- If your house alarm goes off, or you hear strange noises or your dogs bark switch on the outside lights.
- Always check the identity of strangers who visit for business purposes, to do deliveries or repairs. Ensure that you stay out of their reach to avoid being grabbed through a close gate.
- Report suspicious characters who pose a threat to the police. When employing someone request their identity document and make a copy thereof for safekeeping. Check their previous employment references and do security clearances at the police.
- Install the best security you can afford, for example the security gates at outside doors. Keep these gates locked. If possible fix a door viewer and latch chain.
- When approaching your house entrance by foot or by car ensure that it is safe to enter and that you have not been followed. Be aware of persons loitering at the entrance.
- Always keep your keys to prevent duplication thereof. Never leave your house keys under a doormat or in a pot plant. Once you have locked your door from the inside remove the key and place it in a safe place.
- Do not leave keys in a hidden place for domestic staff or children, robbers often stake out a house and will find out about these hiding places. Do not give keys to people who do not live on the property or to anyone if it is not absolutely necessary.
- Know your neighbours and build a relationship of mutual trust and support. When going away inform them.
- It is always best to arrange with persons living in the same street as you to be ready at all times to come to the rescue of one another in dangerous or suspicious times. Exchange phone numbers or signaling methods when you find yourself in distress. Your strength always lies in how many people are able to support you in an emergency.
- If you buy luxury goods, cut up the boxes and dispose of these in tied black bags – a branded box is a telltale sign of what thieves could find in your house.
- Keep cash and valuables in banks or safes.
- Store your firearms in a safe.
- Business people refrain from having large amount of cash at your resident.

News in brief

PATROLS – Volunteers always needed for nightly patrols & 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

ID CARDS: Members, especially patrollers, needing ID cards to supply Lyn Marsh with passport size photos as soon as possible.

REPORT CRIME

By reporting crimes you are empowering your station to grow. *Report all suspicious behaviour or persons to 10111 or to one of the Neighbourhood Watch numbers listed on page 1. When calling 10111, it is important to stay as calm as possible, give accurate directions, a clear account of what has happened and to get the name of the operator taking your call.*

WHEN GIVING YOUR STATEMENT TO THE POLICE, MAKE SURE IT IS CORRECT BEFORE SIGNING IT AND ASK FOR A COPY. THERE IS USUALLY A LONG DELAY BEFORE CASES GET TO COURT AND BEING ABLE TO READ THROUGH YOUR ORIGINAL STATEMENT CAN AVOID GIVING CONFLICTING EVIDENCE.

MORE INFORMATION ON REPORTING CRIME IN OUR NEXT ISSUE