



COMMUNITY NEWS

Newton Park Sector Crime Forum & Neighbourhood Watch

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NEWTON PARK • GLENHURD • ADCOCKVALE EXTENSION

NOVEMBER 2010

**Sector Commander: Warrant Officer
R. Dillon Tel: (041) 3638382
Assistant: Const. Nande 0824504535**

**Chairman: Basil Mclean
Vice-Chairman: Charlie Liston
Secretary: Lyn Marsh**

**Treasurer: Lynne Crothall
Patrol Coordinator: Monty Brown**

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

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. Ladies watch your handbags - read article on page 2.

There is nothing more relaxing than going on holiday, but that nagging feeling of worry over the security of your home can be distracting. Reduce this sensation by making sure that you have made your house as safe as possible, and you will certainly get that much more out of your break away from everyday life.

Advice from ADT

Putting Up Appearances

When you are away, don't advertise that your home is empty - it is imperative that you make it seem as though your house is occupied while you are away.

Be discreet when packing your car, and do so in the garage if possible. Don't tell any unnecessary strangers that you are planning a holiday away from home. A common mistake that people make is leaving answering machine messages stating exact departure and return times.

Organise for a friend or trustworthy person living in your neighbourhood to check on your home daily. To make the house look lived in, ask your house sitter to switch on different lights on different days and to empty the post box. Simply having someone around the house creates the impression that your home is occupied, and could mean the difference between a break-in and a terrific, stress free holiday.

If you'd prefer not to have someone in your home, cancel your newspapers, set alarm clocks or radios to turn on at regular intervals during the day to create a lived-in impression. There are plenty of timer plugs on the market to turn specific lights or electronic devices on automatically.

Test Your Alarm System

Most alarm systems require that you test them once or twice a year, but few people actually carry out these important checks. It is no good having an alarm that is faulty and "cries wolf" or simply doesn't sound - so there is no better time to test your early warning system than now. To avoid overloading the system with false activations, it is important to always notify the ADT control room before any testing

is carried out. Testing should be done outside of peak hours, between 8am and 4pm, or after 8pm. If a fault is discovered, it should be immediately reported to ADT's technical team.

It is also be a good idea to let your private security company know that you will be going away.

Turn Off All Electrical Devices

Remove all unnecessary plugs from power points in your home, as well as your geyser. Not only will it save you on your electricity bill, but it will also prevent power surges or storms from damaging computers or televisions.

Be careful not to accidentally unplug any alarm systems or backup generators.

Taking Care of Pets

There are a few options when considering pet care while you are away on holiday. You could either have someone come to your home to feed your animals for you, have someone take them into their home while you're away or put your animals into the professional care of a kennel.

Final Checks Before You Depart

Go through your home and double check that all doors and windows are closed, locked and secure. Don't leave any keys or valuables on show; this is only an invitation to burglars. Rather lock all extra car keys, personal documents and irreplaceable valuables away in a safe place.

Now that your house is secure, it is time to do what's most important: go away on your well deserved holiday safe in the knowledge that your home is as safe and sound as possible. Enjoy your holiday.

**LAST MEETING FOR THE YEAR
2 NOVEMBER 2010 AT 18h30
ELIZABETH PLACE
(FRUIT & VEG PARKING AREA)**
•Alerts
•General

CRIME WARNING
**Theft of and out of motor vehicles
on the increase in all areas.
Do not leave valuables where it is
easily visible.**
**Do not leave your vehicle out on
the verge for lengthy periods.**
**WHEN DRAWING MONEY BE
EXTRA VIGILANT AT THE ATM,
ESPECIALLY DURING THE
UPCOMING HOLIDAY (read how to
protect your pin on page 3)**

INFORM YOUR NEIGHBOUR IF YOU
ARE PLANNING A HOLIDAY AWAY
FROM HOME AND
IF YOU ARE A MEMBER -
INFORM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD
WATCH TO KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR
PROPERTY WHILE OUT ON PATROLS

**THANK YOU TO ALL OUR
LOYAL MEMBERS AND
PATROLLERS WHO
UNSELFISHLY SACRIFICE
THEIR TIME TO HELP
WHERE NEEDED**
WE SALUTE YOU



Season's Greetings

and best wishes for the
coming year

BASIL MCLEAN - CHAIRMAN
& THE REST OF THE COMMITTEE

Ladies and their handbags

Thieves have always been with us, and it's safe to presume that they always will be. They prey on women on their own, or women together. Reports have come to our notice that quite a few women have recently had their bags stolen. These thugs specialize in snatching unwatched handbags. This is what happened to two ladies while attending the recent cat show in the Walmer Town Hall and a lady at a church service leaving her bag in the pew while going up to take communion.

With the deteriorating economic climate, more and more people are finding themselves with less or no income. As a result petty crime has increased. It is quite certain that wherever you go, there is a chance that you are regarded as a possible victim. So, more than ever, ladies need to watch their backs and take care of their handbags.

Whenever you go to a restaurant, or a pub, the handbag usually ends up on the floor. Sometimes it is under the chair you are sitting on. Either way it becomes a prime opportunity for the resident bag pirate. You are only one step away from that sinking feeling that you get when you realize that your money, credit cards, as well as your prized possession are gone.

Minimise the risk of handbag theft. Some seem very basic; however they are easily forgotten when distracted:

1. Don't leave your bag unattended, especially when out shopping. It's easy just to leave it with a pile of coats or other people's bags – however this makes it easier for a thief to pretend to be looking for something. If shopping and trying on items, ask someone to hold your handbag for you, even if it's a shop assistant.
2. Use "Chelsea" clips that are often attached to the underside of tables. These make it more time consuming and obvious for someone to remove a bag. Try not to put your handbag over the back of a chair as this makes it easy for thieves when you lean forward.
3. Be aware of your surroundings. A nearby argument may be just to distract you and your group.
4. Ensure fastenings and zips are closed. They're easily left open for pickpockets.
5. Keep keys separately. One less thing to worry about if anything unfortunate happens.
6. Take only what is necessary with you. If you know you are going out, why take all your credit and debit cards? Do you need your expensive camera? Take the bare minimum with you.

REMEMBER TO REPORT ALL CRIME

The SAPS determine manpower and the necessary resources that need to be allocated to specific police stations, based on the crime that is reported in that specific area.

Don't look away let's ACT against crime together

News from ATLAS SECURITY Smash-and-Grabs

The increased use and ownership of plasma screen TV's, flat screen monitors, high-tech cell phones and laptop computers has been accompanied by a rise in theft because they are easy to steal and are often left unattended and visible to opportunistic thieves.

Here are some precautions you should take to help ensure that your valuable electronic items are not stolen:

- Mark computers and laptops, through the use of microdots, engraving or other means, to secure their identity. This negatively affects their resale value and is therefore a deterrent to thieves.
- Keep an up-to-date inventory of all computer equipment. The list should include the make and description, serial number and the purchase date, place and price of each item. This can help prevent internal theft and will help the police and insurance companies should a burglary occur.
- Keep computers and high-value equipment away from windows on the ground floor. Ensure that these areas are well covered by the alarm system.
- Attach or anchor computers to furniture or something solid with security plates.
- Store laptops in high-security cabinets or in a safe when not in use.
- Make sure all employees know not to leave laptops unattended and in full view.
- Employees should be encouraged to take laptops home or lock them up safely at the end of the working day.
- Remember to backup data on disk on a regular basis or at a remote station via the intranet. The data within your computer can also be protected by using locking devices which cover or slot into the disk drive's bezel.
- Carry backup disks and, if you are able to, hard disk drives separately.

How children can protect themselves

- Always tell your parents where you are going and who you are with.
- Never answer the door if alone.
- Do not invite anyone into the house without the permission of a parent or babysitter.
- NEVER get into anyone's car without permission.
- Don't tell anyone on the phone that your parents are not home. Instead tell them that your parents can't come to the phone and take a message.
- Don't take short cuts. Always use well-travelled streets.
- Go to the nearest cashier if lost or separated from a parent in a store or mall.
- Do not take candy or other gifts from strangers without asking a parent first.
- Never hitch-hike.
- Stay away from isolated areas or abandoned buildings.
- If you do not know the driver of a car that slows down or stops near you, run home, to the police department or to a public place where there are people. Do not run and hide.
- If an adult approaches to ask for directions, step back, tell them you don't know and walk away. Adults should ask other adults for directions.
- If you see anyone unfamiliar or suspicious hanging around a schoolyard or a park, tell your parents.
- Conceal your cell phone when you are in a public place.
- Do not leave cell phones or other valuable items clearly visible in cars.

"WE ARE THE EYES AND THE EARS OF THE POLICE"
Please report any suspicious persons or activities to the neighbourhood watch and to 10111

VALLEY WALK



SOME OF OUR MEMBERS, JOINED BY W/O DILLON, TOOK PART IN A RECENT EVENING CLEAN-UP OPERATION



GETTING READY FOR THE NIGHT

PLEASE SAVE WATER

CURRENT DAM LEVELS

Kouga Dam 32,9%

Churchill Dam 24%

Impofu Dam, 31.5%

Help conserve water and report all water leaks to Water services on 041 505-2258 or toll free on 0800 20 5050.

Save it, or do without it!

INTERNET FRAUD

AVOID DOING BANKING ON COMPUTERS TO WHICH THE GENERAL PUBLIC HAS ACCESS.

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

rodendaal@mandelametro.gov.za

OUR BANKING DETAILS

NEWTON PARK SECTOR

POLICING FORUM

FNB 32 DAY CALL ACCOUNT

Account No.74219145072

BRANCH CODE: 261050

Commercial Crime Safety Tips

Always protect your PIN AT ATMs

BE VIGILANT: Carefully scan the area for suspicious characters. Do not be fooled by people who are well-dressed and eloquent. Fraudsters often pose as custodians of the bank.

Emphatically refuse ANY assistance offered by any person.

Do not allow people to look over your shoulder or press any of the keyboard keys of the ATM whilst you are busy.

If you are remotely suspicious, postpone using the ATM until it is safer to do so.

If you suspect your card has been compromised, cancel it immediately.

Check the machine for any attachments, often the crooks would position skimming devices or pin-size cameras at the ATM to obtain your details.

If your card is not returned, check the ATM slot for a strip of x-ray material which is glued inside with the intention of 'trapping' your card.

Do not allow your card to be swiped through any device.

FOLLOW YOUR CARD!! This is one exercise which could save you thousands of rands. It takes a fraudster or a waiter two seconds to swipe your card through a skimming device in order to reproduce a cloned version of your card.

Ensure you are present to monitor the transaction at the point-of-sale device.

DEPOSIT SLIP/REFUND SCAM
ALWAYS CHECK WHETHER FUNDS ARE CLEAR BEFORE RELEASING GOODS OR REFUNDING MONIES

CHEQUE FRAUD

Never sign blank cheques. To protect your signature keep cheques with your statements in a secure place.

Do not use ink on cheques which can easily be erased, to complete cheques use a ballpoint pen or an inkjet printer.

DO NOT MAIL CHEQUES as syndicates have placed people strategically to intercept them. Effect a direct payment or conduct an electronic transfer into the intended account. Check the authenticity of the ID which accompanies the cheque payment ie. Compare the face; has the photo on the ID document been tampered with; you can even request the person's driver's licence to compare the two. Retain a copy of the ID and confirm the contact details.

Information supplied by: Directorate for Priority Crime Investigations

PLEASE TAKE PRIDE IN YOUR SUBURB AND KEEP UNDESIRABLES OUT OF OUR AREA! DO NOT PUT YOUR BLACK BAGS OUT BEFORE COLLECTION DAY

Organisations involved in recycling – Port Elizabeth:

Arlington Waste Disposal Site: all general waste (Situating near the Arlington Race Course, alongside Victoria Drive, off the Schoenmakerskop Road, Port Elizabeth) - 041 366 1052

Recycling sites in Port Elizabeth

Friends of the Walmer Library: newspapers for recycling as well as books & magazines for resale (Main Rd, Walmer) - 041 581 4111

Friends of the Linton Grange Library: books & magazines for resale (Old Cape Rd, Linton Grange) - 041 360 1255

Mondi: white paper, newspapers, magazines and cardboard (at Warehouse 8, 137 Grahamstown Rd, Deal Party)

Reclaim bin on the North Campus of the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University: paper

PE: glass (5 Old Grahamstown Rd, Deal Party, next to the Shell truck stop)

Wandiles bottle dealer: whole no-deposit bottles (near New Brighton)

Reclamation Group: steel (Burman Rd)

Reclamation Group: other metals e.g. copper, brass and aluminium (123 Grahamstown Rd)

Vest Design Seven: rubber and plastic (94 Govan Mbeki Ave)

Care Haven Psychiatric Centre: cans, craft items, old CDs, records etc

(14 Belmont Terrace, Central)

contact John on 041 585 9334

St Francis Hospice: clothing, household items, 1 litre yoghurt containers, 2 litre icecream containers and large pill boxes - contact Helen on 041 582 3304

Lake Farm Centre: jars, bottles and magazines (Lakeside Rd, Kragga Kamma) - 041 379 1555

Motherwell Recycling Centre and

Noziqhamo Arts & Crafts: most types of plastic including bottles and plastic packets, scraps and offcuts of materials, craft leftovers, plastic bags etc (Motherwell - also has drop-off points: Lifeline at 7 Cooper St, Children's Feeding Trust at the Walmer Town Hall - contact Maureen on 041 581 4371, Eunice on 073 008 7595 or Jenny on 082 853 0700)