

Gordon's Bay Neighbourhood Watch Monthly Newsletter



Volume

NO 4

EXCO Committee

Chairman – Leon Lottering

Vice Chairperson – Jacques de Bruin

Treasurer – Lisa Shorter

Membership – Edwina Hadfield

Patrollers – Anne Fouche

Upcoming Events

Carols by Candlelight

1 December 2021

On Main Beach

Full details to be confirmed

EWaste

Saturday 4 December 2021

08h00 to 12h00

GBNW HQ

From the Chair

This past month has been a challenging one, getting to know the ropes and putting a few controls in place, not that I have needed to control the Exco members, but following on what Marc was putting in place, my main aim is to keep you the members updated with all matters regarding the operation of GBNW and have requested reports from the different disciplines so that we are all in the loop when it comes to the operations of the GBNW.

This is a second members meeting I have chaired and hope all the information was well received.

For those members who were not at the meeting, throughout the newsletter we will report on what we reported on at the meeting together with other news snippets.

The Gordon's Bay Residents Association has invited us to join them in arranging a Carols by Candlelight evening on the main beach, on 1 December 2021 from 18h00 to 20h00, and we are excited to say that the SA Navy Band will lead the carols, so we look forward to your support in this event.

Recent Crime Issues in Gordon's Bay

Petty crime continues to be the most reported, together with theft out of motor vehicles, house break-in's are on the increase in certain areas and residents are continually asked to please do not leave valuables in your cars, you are a target, one cannot understand the logic behind it, the inconvenience must far out weight the bother of sorting out the insurance, that is if you have, broken car window, or even the lock of the car if that has been damaged – it's a cost, its inconvenient and its plain 'stupid' to leave items in full view – please don't.

If you are a guest house owner or friends of a guest house owner, please warn them of this new trend, to tell them to warn their visitors. Visitors visiting Crystal Pools, Dappa's se Gat or any of the lookout points these have also become the target areas – tell your friends and family.

The silly season is approaching, and the opportunists are entering this town daily, looking where they can get easy picking, so please be aware of our surrounds, anything metal lying around is 'pinchable', 'pinch' proof your surroundings – don't let anybody have an opportunity to take something

from your home.

Homes that are left standing empty, or holiday homes, are becoming target with vagrants sleeping on their steps etc., and or gaining entry and then wrecking the home – please be vigilant of those homes around you that you know are locked up etc. or been reclaimed by the bank – inform SAPS immediately if you see any movement in the house and you are unsure. Vagrancy can be reported to the City of Cape Town 021 4807700 and give full details of the vagrants sleeping in the area.

Prostitution is rife in this town, which is sad, on any given day we have 10 – 15 ladies of the day – let alone the night – walking around, and why – because they get the necessary trade. It's so in one's face during the day but thankfully Law Enforcement is onto this and those who support these ladies will be dealt with, we are reporting on a regular basis those car registrations that pick up these ladies and hefty fines are being imposed.

Fingerprinting

The fingerprinting backlog is ongoing, and sadly no amount of pressure put on SAPS can help, **but it does not hinder our operations** at all, as the main aim is to have everybody fingerprinted, which we are doing and currently just filing those completed on file until such time that the department at SAPS has found their feet and ready to accept more fingerprints. Our concern is that they get lost in the woodwork, thus just filing them.

We need for our accreditation to have all members fingerprinted and we started this process in April this year. To date only 145 members have renewed their fingerprints.

If you still need to do this, we are at HQ every Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday morning from 08h00 to about 08h45 you can pop down and we will do the necessary and keep on file as proof that it was done.

Gun Licences

Captain Delpont reported back at the CPF meeting held this month that they were winning with the backlog, and the outstanding licences should all be cleared shortly.

Reporting Incidents to SAPS

We continue to request that you report crime, and should you talk to someone regarding crime, encourage them to report no matter how petty it is.

Remember it is important to take the persons name you are dealing with and get an OB number – no matter how small – it is reported, this helps SAPS to plot the hot spot areas. If you are not satisfied with the assistance you get from SAPS there is a complaints or compliments box at the entrance

to the CSC – please use this box the Captain is the only person that has a key, the information remains confidential.

If you are not comfortable doing this, you can report to the Chairperson of the CPF via email gpf.gordonsbay1@gamil.com who will take the matter up with the captain and or the relevant authorities.

If we do not report issues no matter what it is, we will continue to loose staff and we cannot afford to lose any more staff.

What's App Groups

We are in the process of reviewing the groups, we keep saying we doing it, but both Lisa and Edwina that work with the members information are busy currently and as NW is a volunteer organisation, we cannot put pressure on them, although we have and they hope to have all the other groups changed by month end – holding thumbs that the new groups will be up and running by 1 December 2021.

As a member if you have not had your fingerprints re-done as we keep requesting you do this otherwise you will be removed from the groups.

Patrolling

We continue to encourage all members to join the patrolling groups, we know that it is difficult times, petrol is expensive etc., but if we all jump in an do a hour or so a week it will not be too bad, and the patrollers that are already doing it can have some light relief – currently 19 or so patrollers are patrolling – lets give them a hand and join and be part of the patrolling 'click'.

Permits

New permits were issued to the current patrollers at the beginning of this month and valid until the end of December 2021.

You cannot patrol without a permit; you need to request one through Anne Fouche if you are not on the list of permits issued.

Do not think that because SAPS know who you are it's in order, because should a Metro official stop you, you will be fined, besides putting the organisation into jeopardy as a list of permits issued is forwarded to the different law enforcement agencies. Please just do what you have to do.

As a new member you have to patrol with a seasoned patroller first, once that patroller feels you are able to go out on your own, then it happens, you may not take a nonmember with you to patrol.

STOCK

We are extremely grateful for all the new stock of jackets we have received, but we will I am sure not be issuing these until next winter. In the meantime, we are working on a design for cooler summer jackets and or T-shirts. We

will keep you updated.

Anybody wanting to purchase a radio need to contact Lisa Shorter who talk you through the process. Lisa's contact details : 0827546326 or email lisashorter@rocketmail.com – Lisa is currently spending a lot of time on the road, so if she does not answer, leave her a message or send her an email but she will get back to you..

Ewaste Day

Saturday 4 December 2021 is our next eWaste day at GBNW HQ please let your friends, family, aunties, and uncle know so that we make it a bumper collection.

Fridges, washing machines, and anything electrical is welcome, if you do have a problem with a fridge or washing machine, let us know, if there is someone on the day that has a bakkie, we can collect, but it is dependent on who we have available.

GBNW STOREROOM

We were greatly saddened, and traumatized at the fact that our storeroom where we kept all our stocks of cold drinks, water, and lots lot's more in was broken into, the scary part is they never cut the lock, they forced it open and then over a couple of nights slowly cleaned us out, and slept on the recently donated mattresses etc.

We know who was involved and are working closely with the detectives to sort this out, but like all things it takes time, but we have the patience to wait and see what is returned.

This is shown us how smart and strategic, how the underworld works, but catch them we will – we are hurt and disgruntled as we know that it is some of those who are sleeping in the tents near HQ and maybe one or two pink bibbers which is so hurtful when one thinks of the time and effort given to those that we suspect and that they have done this – but time will tell.

Insurance

We did discuss at Exco level the need for insurance, and now more so than ever we will be insured against all risks, we are just gathering costs and will then get quotes.

Vagrancy

Lots and lots of new face, as they say they come to Gordon's Bay because it's the 'land of milk and honey' – and we are going to put a stop to this with immediate effect – new tents popping up, new faces walking our streets, stop ask, who you looking for if there is no reason why they must be walking up your street – make it known that you know what he looks like. Begging is on the increase.

We have been able to contain the tents on the beachfront but it is not ideal, and we are working closely with law enforcement, SAPS and the detectives to keep a finger on the pulse, and until we are out of the COVID ruling there is nothing we can do, and that goes for the other tents popping up at the Cottage Vet and on the crochet field opposite Ooskus – we continually report these structures.

PINK BIBS

We are not issuing new pink bibs and trying to keep those on the street parking as the regulars, but they are the official parkers. There are yellow and green bibs that are challenging us – but Law Enforcement will deal with them and remove their bibs sadly we are not allowed to.

The old faces that were with us earlier in the year, left but soon went right off the rails, suddenly realise it is season and want to come back. They have to go through a programme with Compassion Care before we are letting them back onto our streets to park cars.

It is the aim of the Pink Bib Campaign by the CPF to help get those on the street off the street and into jobs, we have had a number of successes, and happy to say a number have moved back to their homes where they are supporting their families but then there are those that are still on the street, and we feel we are enabling them to continue with the drugs etc etc., we need to make sure that they are put through programmes that can build their confidence and or deal with their drug addiction and thank you to Compassion Care who are working closely with them – but the situation is still difficult as change does not happen in a week, a month or a year, but we continue to hopefully that the change will come.

Please we ask you to support the pink bibbers and not any other colour bib, they are our problems.

CARS ON THE BEACH FRONT

We have five cars currently on the beach front, and although we are working with traffic and law enforcement, we just cannot get them to move – due to the COVID regulations, and also by-laws – so please we ask do not support these members, if you know what happens in these cars you will not support them, you are not helping them, you are enabling them – the one car with the lady in the wheel chair that has subsequently died, has been on our streets for four years – they get a pension, and have had help offered from every which way to get into a safe place, but they will not go – would you and I go if we knew we could bank our full pension, and have someone bring us milk and bread three times a week, take my washing, and have at times taken them home to wash, bath, clean themselves, brought a meal or two – who expenses do I have nothing – but its good to keep taking and have no consideration for those residents who are paying rates and trying to keep

Gordon's Bay clean – the cars are easily identified – they are red, yellow, blue grey and a white BMW – its nonsense, please do not support them, they have been booted from other towns are them have stopped giving – PLEASE STOP GIVING AND PASS THE MESSAGE ON.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Membership cards for patroller is ready for signature by the captain and will be issued once this is completed. Work will the begin on the members cards. Thank you for your patience.

**Keep safe, be the 'eyes and ears',
report crime.**