



April News

Exco Committee

Leon Lottering – Chair
Jacque de Bruin – Vice
Lisa Shorter – Finance
Edwina Hadfield –
Membership & Admin
Anne Fouche – Patrollers
Liaison

Newsletter No 5
admin@gbnw.co.za



The second quarter of the year is already upon us, and winter is fast approaching, the state of emergency has been lifted and let's hope with that comes lots of positive movement in our town as far as Law Enforcement and SAPS is concerned when it comes to crime.

The month of March we had to cancel our members meeting due to work commitments and availability. We think it is only proper that we explain that we are all very aware that we are a volunteer organisation, we do what we all can always, but when work calls, then we have no option but to put our hand up and say we cannot do it, and

this was the case last month, both Leon, Jacque and Lisa were called upon on the day to work additional hours, and with and Edwina was away and that left Anne, and although she is more than capable to take the meeting, we opted to cancel at the last minute so our sincere apologies if we inconvenienced anybody, it was unforeseen.

Now that the first apology is out of the way, lets get to the next one or two.

Edwina who is responsible for membership and all things admin, apologises and will in future make sure that you get at least 6 days' notice of meetings and the minutes of the previous meeting.

Our next meeting is on the 13th April 2022 at 19h00 at the Lion's Club, Agenda and minutes sent under separate cover.

We have had a suggestion that we print the Agenda and minutes to be made available at the meetings, but we feel this is a a costly exercise and if any members would like a printed copy let Edwina know and she will gladly bring a set to the meeting for you, all but 2 members do not have email addresses and we trust that you are excited enough to read the newsletters and or minutes sent out.

A report is generated as to who is the mail is delivered to and read – and we have weeded out the addresses that have changed or no longer exist.

Remember besides the written message, Lisa also puts up notices on the what's app groups..

What's App Groups

Yes, we are full of apologies in this newsletter, but we have changed back to Lisa being Admin on all the Groups and unbeknown to us at the time or to her, but her work commitments have gone through the roof but slowly, very slowly she is getting there with the necessary changes. So, we apologise!

The Patrollers Reporting Group will be added within a day or two and this will be for them to report when going on patrol as to what their observations were.

Crime Status

Petty crime is on the increase, we can see by the number of new stragglers that are entering the town, once again feeding is taking off at various NPO's, which bring these stragglers into town and then they stay here, and then start walking the streets and doing some window shopping.

House break-in's is on the increase, and as usual one of the modes of entry is sliding doors, please ensure you have deadlocks on your doors, this makes it difficult to move the door.

If you are working and you leave your home to servants etc., dead lock your doors and remove keys so that the door cannot be left open accidentally,

Open garages another problem area, this could be a remote problem, could be you just forgot to close the garage, check before you enter your home that your garage is properly secure as there has been a lot of garage entry issues, forcing doors open and or just entering because garage is left open.

Bicycles are very 'pinchable'.

We thank our Pink Bibber who noted two locals with a bicycle that was clearly not theirs, he reported it to Edwina who advised SAPS immediately, action was taken and the bicycle that had been sold for R300 was retrieved.

Upcoming Events

Gordon's Bay Primary
Feast Celebration
8 April 2022

You cannot leave anything outside and pop in doors quickly, it will be history, sadly that is the times we are living in.

Watchdog a local company has joined hands with the CPF (Community Police Forum) to start installing cameras in different streets. This is a street initiative, and each street contributes towards the cameras to safeguard their street.

The cameras are a state of the art, they put out a warning when a person is in the area to tell them that they are under surveillance, so this is a massive deterrent on its own.

Watt and Whittle streets are complete, with several other streets already in progress, this will not only help crime intelligence but will also start cleaning up our town of these stragglers. with the present state of the economy and joblessness, it is becoming more evident since our petty crime, house break-ins are occurring.

Please be extra vigilant when it comes to your security, make sure that you are secure, if you can afford security, do so, beams are the answer as they are the first line of entry and are a huge deterrent.

Dustbin days are the most popular days for the regular bin diggers, but we have noted that with all the new faces in town we need to keep an eye on them, if you are outside near your dustbin, ask where they come from, make it known to them that you note who they are and are in the area, it is a deterrent.

Make sure that you have marked your dustbin with your house number in paint that cannot easily be removed or something that will identify your dustbin

In some of the suburbs in Gauteng, more gated communities, they have registered bin diggers, this is a project in the pipeline but a lot of thought, planning etc must go into it as we are not a gated community where it is easy to control.

Our next area of focus

Lots of news at our next members meeting, changes at the station, promotions, new plans and more – so be

there to hear what it is happening on the crime front as Leon attends the Exco meeting on the night before our members meeting and will give feedback at the meeting,

At the CPF meeting, which is the oversight body of SAPS, all the different law enforcement agencies sit around the table and discuss the crime status of the previous month and going forward. One of the duties of the CPF is to develop a safety plan for the area and this is now in progress and will be shared at NW meeting when complete.

The different agencies that sit around the table are Traffic, Law Enforcement, SAPS, Metro, and we hope to have Correctional Services and the Magistrate or her representative at our next meeting to understand why so many are just given bail ten times over before eventually committing them to an institution.

Patrolling

Our sincere appreciation to those patrollers who were out and about during the month of March, we had over 30 patrollers on the road, and Leon will give the stats at the meeting.

Sadly, our foot patrols have not taken off yet, but Jacque together with Anne are working on a programme to be more visible through foot patrols.

This does not mean that there will be no car patrols, this will still happen, but foot patrols will also involve those home observers in the different streets to join in and just patrol their street and or surrounds in their yellow jackets or bibs – its visibility and that is what is needed, the patrols can take place any time during the day

Arrangements will be made for SAPS to walk with the groups, this must be a documented walk.

Any formulated patrol must have a register and members must sign the register other than obtaining an OB number – this is a Doc's requirement and for the

safety of our members.

Booking on Patrol must be made at the station and two persons must patrol together, the station will not allow one person to patrol on their own, you need to identify the other person in the car together with your make and colour of your car. We will discuss the daytime patrolling at the meeting.

Community in Blue

This is a SAPS initiative that have mandated the CPF to oversee the process.

Currently as you all know we have been waiting months and months for this to come to fruition, and we have now been allocated three uniforms and we are now waiting for training.

The Community in Blue Concept is in line with the implementation of community policing approach and the National Development Plan, 2030 which states that achieving long-term sustainable safety requires an integrated approach focused on tackling fundamental causes of criminality which requires a wider range of resources, active citizenry, and co-responsibility

The prevalence of crime in the country continues to undermine growth and development as well as the revitalisation of the economy.

Various community safety initiatives need to be integrated and orchestrated within the umbrella of the CPF, aligned to SAPS and within the CPF area of responsibilities.

Objectives of the Community of Blue

The objectives of the community in blue concept are to —

(a) promote reporting of criminal activities and any

suspicious behaviour in the communities.

(b) increased visibility to deter criminal activities; and

(c) active community participation in crime prevention initiatives.

The community in blue will also assume the objectives of the CPF and Board as stated in section 18(1) of the South African Police Service Act, 1995 (Act No.68 of 1995).

Principles of Volunteering as a Community in Blue Patroller

Volunteering as a community patroller within a patrol group that accounts to the local CPF is regulated in a way in which a community member can actively participate in the fight against crime without professional qualification or previous experience.

The following principles should be adhered to —

- (a) Professionalism;
- (b) Accountability;
- (c) Dedication and commitment;
- (d) Honesty;
- (e) Transparency; and
- (f) Non-discriminatory practices.

Roles and Responsibilities of Patrollers

Community in Blue patrollers should get involved in structured community safety initiatives, projects and into a formal police-community partnership and will be utilised in the following capacities:

- (a) Proactive approach to the risk of crime and taking action to protect their own property and that of their neighbours. Such actions

may include marking property, reporting suspected activities, and improving home security, which reduce opportunities for crime and increase the risk of detection.

(b) deter any anti-social behaviour through mentorship and shadowing.

(c) performs a supportive role to social crime prevention actions.

(d) participate in crime prevention initiatives and projects in the community.

(e) enhance community based intelligence.

(f) serving as the “eyes and ears” of the South African Police Service by identifying and reporting any suspicious behaviour, persons or activities and crime in the policing precinct to the South African Police Service (local Police Station);

(g) account to the local CPF structures.

(h) encourage community networks to support the identification and exposure of criminals and criminal activities in the community.

(i) support crime prevention awareness campaigns launched by established community-safety structures, Community Police Forum, South African Police Service;

(j) support environmental design initiatives with the intent to reduce opportunities for crime; and

(k) Participate in the activities of the Community Police Forum and/or Sector Forum as part of the committee.

7. What is Expected from a Community in Blue Patroller

(a) Knowing and understanding the Code of Conduct and adhering to it;

(b) understanding channels of communication and utilising them appropriately.

(c) performing duties promptly and reliably.

- (d) keeping records and writing reports on work done as required.
- (e) protecting and utilising allocated resources responsibly.
- (f) always patrol with another registered patroller.
- (g) patrol in approved uniform and insignia; and
- (h) reporting to the CPF, Sector Forum and Sector Commander.

8. Recruitment and Selection of Community in Blue Patrollers

- (a) The Department of Community Safety at a provincial level is responsible for oversight through CPF structures. The process of recruitment at a precinct level will be directly carried out by the established CPF (SAPS and the community elected representatives);
- (b) CPF jointly with SAPS in the targeted precincts will activate processes of recruitment of community;
- (c) SAPS will assist with the process of screening of these volunteers;
- (d) In instances where a volunteer is found to be having a criminal record, SAPS should weigh the offence and jointly with the CPF Executive decide on the matter. A decision taken should be forwarded to the Department of Community Safety in writing. (Government has the responsibility to integrate rehabilitated offenders to their communities). Community Members qualifying to apply for expungement via Department of Constitutional Development and Justice – any person on list of sexual offenders will not be allowed;
- (e) The CPF will keep “Personal Files” (set of fingerprints; registration form; photograph; ID Copy; signed code of conduct; initial

request for uniform; skills audit; copies of patroller and other training certificates) of all screened patrollers to be audited by the Department of Community Safety and updated annually;

(f) All patrollers before commencing with patrolling must be registered with CPF and

(g) Every patroller must sign the code of conduct for patrollers.

9. Training and Development

(a) All community in blue patrollers will be inducted by SAPS;

(b) The CPF will based on the outcome of the induction decide on the suitable period for deployment of patrollers;

(c) The CPF and the Station Commander must within 30 days after the induction session compile a report and submit to the Cluster and Provincial Community Police Board; and

(d) patrollers must be trained on Module 2 and 3 of the SAPS Crime Prevention Learning Programme (Community Policing and Sector Policing).

10. Operations of Patrollers

(a) Community in blue patrollers will be deployed within their own residential areas within a specific sector in a station precinct unless redeployed on operational needs and availability with invitation of respective CPF Executive and or by direction of the Station Commander;

(b) there should be close liaison between the Sector Commander and community patrol groups;

- (c) community patrollers should be guided by the sector commander and designated member from the CPF responsible for patrollers and posted according to intelligence received from the station Crime Intelligence Office;
- (d) community patrollers have no police status and their legal authority is limited to that of an ordinary private individual aligned to the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 (sections 42 and 47);
- (e) On monthly basis, a report regarding the activities, challenges and successes of the patrollers must be submitted to the CPF structure; and
- (f) A patroller may not be deployed with a firearm and may not be in possession of a private firearm while performing such duties.

11. Identification of Community in Blue

- (a) Community in blue patrollers must wear an approved attire (e.g., reflector jacket) as prescribed by the CPF; and
- (b) The Community in Blue uniform should be returned to the Police Station when the member no longer serves in the committee.

12. Station Level

It is the responsibility of SAPS through Sector Commanders and the CPF chairperson to ensure close monitoring of patrollers on daily basis. The following must be adhered to in order to ensure effective monitoring:

- (a) Each volunteer reporting for patrol must register on and off duty and the Sector

Commander must keep and update daily log sheet;

- (b) patrollers to maintain and record events and incident in a pocketbook approved by the patroller coordinator;
- (c) commanders must ensure adherence of patrollers to the developed log sheet and any deviation must be recorded.

The CPF is responsible for the effective running of the patroller programme within the precinct. This level of monitoring must be carried out through the following mechanisms:

- (a) Convening monthly meetings with Sector Commanders and patrollers;
- (b) providing feedback on operations;
- (c) ensuring patrollers concerns, short comings and operational requirements are discussed, minuted, finalised at monthly CPF Executive meetings and feedback provided to all patrollers; and
- (d) ensuring that issues of concern raised are dealt with at station level or immediately elevated to the next level.

13. Cluster Level

The cluster Board is responsible for supporting and overseeing the effectiveness of the community patrol programme within their areas of jurisdiction. The level of monitoring will be achieved through the following:

- a) Convening quarterly meetings with CPFs for feedback on the programme
- b) Intervening timeously on patrollers issues elevated to this level
- c) Announced and unannounced visits to patroller operations; and
- d) Receive monthly reports from CPFs.

14. Provincial Level

The Province through Provincial Community Police Board and SAPS Provincial Commissioner are responsible for overseeing the effective running of the programme throughout the province. Monitoring must be carried out through the following:

- a) Receipt of monthly reports from Cluster Boards
- b) Announced and unannounced visits to patrollers operations; and
- c) Provincial Commissioners must include the patrollers' programme in the quarterly reports which are forwarded to the Divisional Commissioner: Visible Policing

15. National Level

The Divisional Commissioner: Visible Policing must:

- a) Monitor implementation of concept through compliance visits
- b) Assessment on the functionality through reports received from provinces; and
- c) Conduct analysis (through Component Crime Register) on crime reported.

16. ACCOUNTABILITY

The Community in Blue patroller structure is accountable to the Community Police Forum of the specific police station.

17. Monitoring and Evaluation

- a) Station visits: Monthly and Quarterly Reports
- b) Community in Blue Street concept established – guiding documents.
- c) Code of Conduct drafted and signed.
- d) Meeting, Minutes, attendance registers

- e) Projects, and
- f) Impact on crime

18. SAPS Role in the Programme

The South African Police Service must ensure that:

- (a) Crime Prevention activities undertaken by the Community in Blue patrollers are legal and within their constitutional mandate;
- (b) The Sector Commander must inform the patrollers about crime threats and crime pattern in the policing precinct;
- (c) The Sector Commander must explain the limits of the individual's power in administering justice within the patrollers;

Note: Although a citizen's arrest is allowed in certain situations, the police are still the only designated persons with legal power to perform law enforcement. In carrying out a citizen's arrest, the requirements as set out in sections 42 and 47 of the Criminal Procedure Act, 1977 (Act No 51 of 1977) must be complied with;

- (d) The Sector Commander must ensure that the patrollers training is carried out;
- (e) The Station Commander and the chairperson of CPF to coordinate all patrols or any other activities that may be performed by the Community in Blue prior to the execution thereof; and
- (f) The Station Commander and the chairperson of CPF must ensure that regular meetings are held and the minutes are kept.

19. Resignation by Patroller

In an instance where a Patroller decides to resign for reasons known to him or her, a resignation letter will be written and be forwarded to the SAPS Station Commander via CPF.

The CPF is expected to conduct interview with the patroller in question in order to identify real reasons that might have resulted in the decision for the purpose of improvement of systems.

The CPF chairperson must ensure that the patroller returns his or her uniform.

NOTES TO COMMUNITY IN BLUE

Should any member be interested in becoming a Community in Blue, please read the details very carefully as to what you are signing up for.

Applications forms are available email Edwina khadfield@icon.co.za or What's App 0823849699 for the necessary forms, which must be submitted together with a CV, passport photograph, closing date will be 20th April 2022.

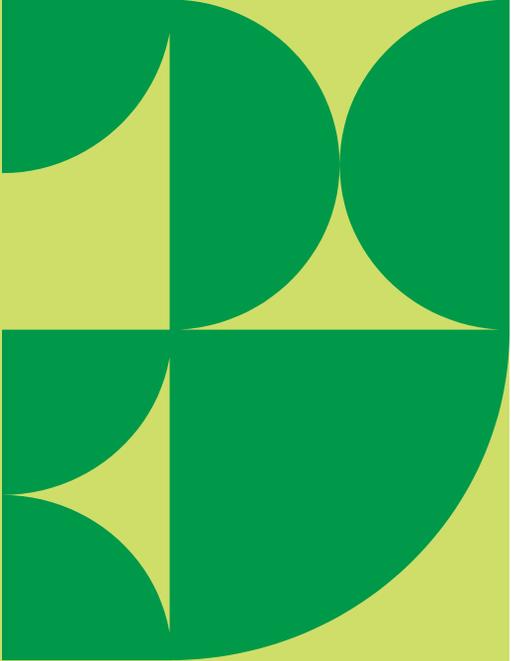
Once these have been received, an interview with the Captain, Sgt Naidoo, Edwina Hadfield, and Kobus Louw will be organized for selection purposes.

Please be aware that this position of a Community in Blue is a volunteer position, and that there is no remuneration involved. You could be asked to work over weekends, special nights etc., you must be able to commit to requests as and when required.

Confidentiality and integrity are two major roles as a Community in Blue person, which as a patroller you do adhere to.

Hope you all keep safe, although the state of emergency has been lifted, the COVID numbers are climbing again – so continue to do what we all do, wear masks, and sanitise, to be on the safe side.

See you at the meeting – don't forget.



Ms. Tanaka

(718) 555-0100
sycamoremiddle.org
ytanaka@sycamoremiddle.edu

