

SSNWatch

Newsletter | JULY 2021



July Jumpstart!

July was an extremely busy time for SSNWatch. Our new executive, Ian Miller, responsible for stakeholder engagement, has managed to quickly achieve massive buy-in from the municipality and private business.

Early on a cold winter morning in July, Ian met with managers of the solid waste department to jumpstart a massive operation to address various issues with the bush areas next to our neighbourhood. Illegal dumping areas which have been picked up during our bush patrols had been mapped previously. It is alarming to think that these health hazards are on our doorstep! The municipality has done a fantastic job as described in more detail later.

Significant evidence of cable theft has also been found in the bush areas. This has been highlighted to the authorities for further investigation and action.

Through generous donations, we have accelerated removal of dense bush on our boundary which have been used by criminals to launch attacks. Bush cutting have also been used to create a natural fence barrier making it more difficult for criminal to access our neighbourhood. Should you wish to donate to this cause, please email us on ssnwatch@gmail.com

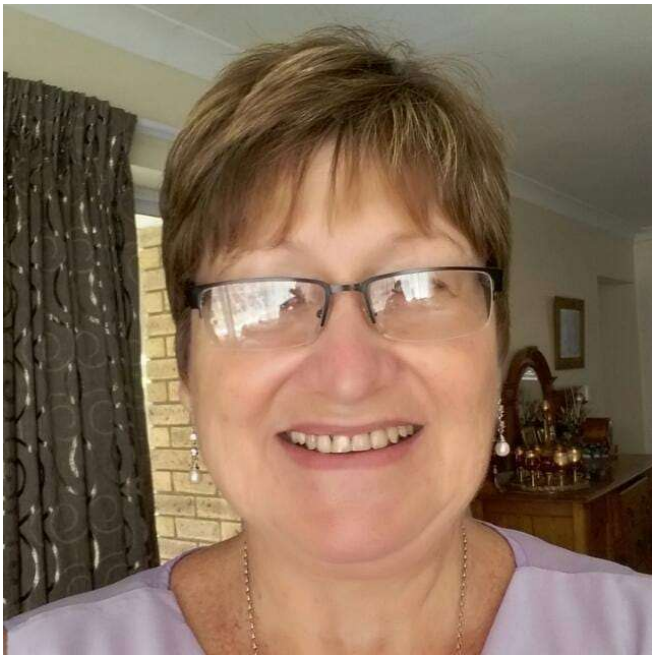
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"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much."

- Helen Keller

Welcome to Gail Pullen



Welcome to Gail Pullen who has taken up the Admin Manager post for SSNWatch. Gail was educated at Collegiate High School for Girls where she matriculated in 1973 and has worked in numerous firms, mainly as a public relations and communications specialist.

She has a BA Degree in Communications from UNISA and a Diploma from the Public Relations Institute of South Africa. She has worked in local government for almost 12 years and has a thorough knowledge and understanding of local government affairs and is currently a Ward 1 Committee Member.

She moved to Summerstrand in September 2011. Gail is passionate about giving back to society and trying to improve the lives of others. Family is important to her and her other interests include gardening, crocheting and assisting others any way she can. Gail is involved in a relationship with her partner, Mike Le Grange.

Metro Mobilizing

The municipal solid waste department has been fantastic in responding to our call for cleaning the illegal dumping in the bush areas close to our properties.

What seemed like an insurmountable task was made easier by the focus and dedication of our municipal employees who made quick work of the challenge.

The municipal employees started clearing at sunrise and worked tirelessly collecting over 300 bags of rubbish on the first day!



We will continue to partner with the department to clean up our neighbourhood and prevent further illegal dumping.

Please let us know if you see any suspicious activity in or around the bush areas and particularly persons carrying items into the bush. We cannot allow these areas to revert to an illegal dumping ground.

Please contact us should you wish to assist with this project.





End.

Cable Theft

During our bush patrols and cleaning activities, numerous instances of cable theft were discovered. This reinforced our suspicions that criminals were using the bush areas as "cover" for various illegal activities.

We have reported this evidence to the authorities for further investigation and will continue to monitor the bush areas to dissuade further cable theft activities.



End.

Bush Boundary

The bush area to the west of the neighbourhood and north of extension 10 have been an ongoing challenge for SSNWatch. These areas are prone to illegal dumping and ideal spaces for criminal to hide while looking for opportunities to strike and then escape. The bush perimeter is at least three kilometres in length so by no means an easy task to address.



It is only through generous donations and member subscriptions that we have been able to make a huge impact in dealing with the encroaching bush areas. You may have noticed the sound of chainsaws and bush cutters being very busy in the last few weeks. We are systematically working from the highest risk areas to cut the bush back.



...continued

In order to address the issue of our vulnerable perimeters we have cleared away a lot of port Jackson willow on the corner of Richardson and McWilliams and across Sharwood park to Sharwood street.

We have used the cut Port Jackson to build a natural "Wall" in order to make it difficult for criminals to gain access from the bush to our streets and homes. We have had serious muggings in this area.



We have cleared away a lot of port Jackson in Amery as well as the corner of Alashan and Gomery as this area has also been the scene of many muggings and other strange happenings.



The Strandfontein road extension across Gomery to the university boundary has also been addressed. Both the road and verges (approximately 20 meters either side) have been cleared of Port Jackson. The SAPS, armed response companies and our SSNWatch patrollers now have clear line of site down this section of Strandfontein Road.



End.

Thank You Sponsors



Mr Patrick Gillespie at City Paint and Tool very kindly donated Road paint to improve the road marking at the Strandfontein / Gomery intersection.

Remember our Corporate donors also need your support. From all of us at SSNWatch a big thank you to City Paint and Tool and Patrick as well as Thomas van Deemter for making it happen.

Mrs Rosetta Paris-Swingburn has advised that the body corporate for Marine Towers would like to give us a donation "to show their support and recognition for the sterling work we are doing in the suburb." A big thank you to Marine Towers we appreciate your kind words and support.

A big thank you to Bradley Millar at Future Tech for your time, effort and expertise in developing our new website. Your generous donation enabled us to get the job done at no cost to SSNWatch. Watch out for further details in next month's newsletter.

We wish to thank Braddon McClellan and Andrew Dillion for their generous donations which enabled us to start our bush clearing projects and another CCTV projects.

The SSNWatch executive would again like to thank all the donors above for their contribution towards making our suburb a little safer.

Any SSNWatch members or non-members who would like to make a donation of sorts can contact Ian Millar at 082 893 4321.

thank you

Beach Watch

Thank you to our Ward 2 councillor, Renaldo Gouws, for tirelessly lobbying for a dedicated beach patrol. The first signs of success are materialising with bike patrols now in place.

We look forward to a dedicated police patrol and multi-faceted approach to security at our beach front as a key asset for both residents and other beach users.



Preventative Patrols



With the unrest and looting flaring up in other parts of the country, our patrollers were on high alert in July. We partnered with other neighbourhood watches in South End and Walmer to increase patrols, especially at night.

Many late nights and early mornings again showed the dedication we have in ensuring our residents can sleep easy at night.

We can't do this on our own and need more members and patrollers to sign up. Please consider joining and patrolling, even if you can only manage an hour or two during the day and are not able to patrol in the evenings.

Congrats CIC



The Community Information Centre (CIC) sponsored by Fidelity ADT, celebrated their 10-year anniversary in July. SSNWatch through a sponsorship from the Caltex service station was able to gift the CIC call centre operators with beanies. These will surely come in handy in this cold weather.

The CIC is an indispensable partner in our fight against crime as their radio control room monitors our patroller's radio communications and provides armed response backup to our patrollers. In an incident, CIC also supports our patrollers by coordinating communications with SAPS, Metro Police and emergency services.

Celebrating CRG



Our Telegram based Crime Reporting Group passed a significant milestone in July with over 600 subscribers signing up.

We are encouraged by the amazing support from our community. Please continue to spread the word to your everyone you know that lives, works or plays in Summerstrand. All eyes and ears are needed in taking back our community from criminals.

Quick Stats



Crime Reporting Group: **614**



Members: **218**



Patrollers: **79**

Contact Us

Scan the code to become a member:



And join the SSNWatch Telegram Crime Reporting Group:



Mail: **ssnwatch@gmail.com**

Mobile: **083 278 3772**

Please support our social media accounts, **@SSNWatch**, by giving us a like.

**Thank you to our
security partners**



<https://www.adt.co.za/>

EMERGENCIES COASTAL: 086 1212 300

Sms, Whatsapp and "CallMe": 083 939 0300

Telephone: 011 766 6061

Sales and enquiries

Coastal: alwayssthere.c@fidelity-adt.co.za



<http://www.citywide.co.za/>

Telephone: 041 072 0841

WhatsApp: 064 766 8905

Email: info@citywide.co.za



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TOGETHER
we are stronger!

S E R V E | S E N S E | S A F E | S H A R P E N | S H I F T