



SSNW Watch

Newsletter | OCTOBER 2022

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Summerstrand Residents and for that matter everybody else living in Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth). For well over a year we have been wanting to secure the Hobie Beach Pier Yacht Club building (Red Windmill). As you are aware the carpark area in particular has become a place for vagrants to hang out as well as other predators of the day and night who break into cars, rob and assault visitors and residents visiting the beachfront. In addition to being a crime spot, it has also become a venue for serious party revellers where drunken disorderliness and indecent exposure have become the norm. This despite the zero tolerance noticeboard.

The extremely good news is that we have secured the Hobie Beach facility thanks to the efforts of numerous people and organisations (SSNW, Councillor Renaldo Gouws, Cliff Hanks Beachfront Safety, Alan Orchard and body corporates, Shaun van Eck from Discover Mandela Bay Tourism, Dr Peter Swartz and all E.D. from relevant municipal departments, as well as SAPS and Metro Police).

The successful implementation of the joint operation station will provide us with visible policing 24/7. SAPS and Metro Police will be assigned to the facility as well as a number of security patrollers covering Kings Beach to the Beacon. Cameras will be installed in strategic spots and 24 hour monitoring on screens within the facility.

This joint operation centre for safety and security will be launched around the 15th November 2022, in the meantime we need to obtain funding in order to acquire furniture, IT equipment, solar power supply, security cameras, lighting, bicycles, etc.

In terms of funding we have had positive responses from:

1. The businesses houses in the Barneys facility
2. Boardwalk Mall
3. Town Lodge and City Lodge
4. SSNW (Summerstrand Neighbourhood Watch)

In this issue...

- Chairman's Message
- Sector Patrols
- New Members
- Vandalism and Theft
- Kings Beach Kiddies Swimming Pool
- Dumping
- Summerstrand Transfer Station (The Tip)
- Transfer Station Rules
- The Fort
- Forest Hill Cemetery
- The Badge
- SSNW Drive-By Show of Strength
- Our Furry Friends
- "Return of the Trolleys"
- Humewood Roadblock
- Thank you to our security partners!

"With one kind gesture you can change a life. One person at a time you can change the world. One day at a time we can change everything."

Dr Steve Maraboili

We, the SSNW, are going to donate the proceeds of our Lucky Draw plus some extra funds to this very worthy cause and would encourage all of you to consider donating directly (please look at the banking details below), **or** buy some R20 tickets and still stand a chance to win a fabulous prize. Have a look at our Facebook page to see how you can enter – **Summerstrand Neighbourhood Watch**. Either way the donation will still get to the project!



Account Number: 53413539067

Bank: FNB Newton Park

Branch Code: 261050

This is the account of Nelson Bay Tourism, and it is a Public Sector Business account

Sector Patrols

In our June newsletter we mentioned our various sectors that we patrol and profiled our Echo Sector Captain, Russell Booth.

In this edition we cover Charlie and Delta Section and the captain, Steven Lurie.

Steven Lurie, married to Nickie and with two wonderful sons, is the Commercial Director of PG Glass. He is a self-confessed petrolhead. Naturally he is a huge fan of Formula 1 and MotoGP, supporting Ferrari and Yamaha respectively, although he does believe that Max is currently the most talented F1 driver. "His major flaw is he's not in a red car," says Steven. Steven enjoys mountain biking and in what spare time he has left he enjoys brewing his own beer.

A1 – (Alpha1) Sean Tappan - Alashan/Amery/Admiralty/Strandfontein.

A2 - (Alpha2) Justin Acker - Admiralty/Galpin/Richardson/Strandfontein.

B - (Bravo) - Unallocated

C - (Charlie) Steven Lurie - Strandfontein/2nd Ave/Brighton/ Admiralty

D - (Delta) Steven Lurie - Brighton/2nd Ave/marine drive/Admiralty

E - (Echo) Russel Booth - Strandfontein/ Caulfield/ Erasmus/2nd Ave



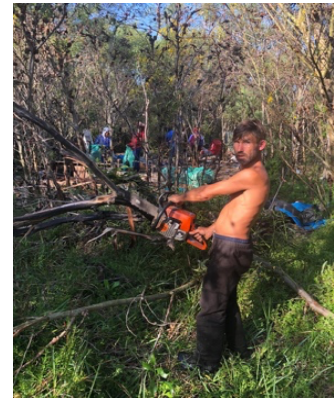
NEW MEMBERS!

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new members including our new beachfront apartment members.

Members in high rise buildings are well positioned to also be the “eyes and ears” for SSNW. If you would like a discussion on how to be eyes and ears and which of our applications to use to bring matters to our attention, please contact Sean Tappan at ssnwatch@gmail.com.

Vandalism and Theft

With the number of vagrants loitering in the area, we continue to have vandalism as their activities are focused on metal collection and copper as well as brass, water meters, letter boxes, house numbers and any other items of value that are removed and sold to scrap dealers.



Homeowners are to be vigilant and secure their properties as best they can as vagrants will remove value items at any opportunity.

There is also a link between some of our vagrants and drug dealers, car break-ins and predators who operate with getaway cars who steal laptops and cellphones from our student residents, amongst others.

As a result of the above, numerous illegal structures in and around our suburb have been removed after those staying in these shacks have been given due notice by SAPS and the authorities from the Metro's Illegal Land Invasion Unit.

SSNW would like to thank SAPS, Metro and the Waste Management Department for all their assistance.

NOTE: The “clean-up” of just three sites (Happy Valley, behind City Towers Hotel and the Forest Hill area) involved the removal of at least 600 black bags of junk and truck loads of raw material, such as wood and plastic.

King's Beach Kiddies Swimming Pool

Vagrants have stripped the area of any metal in toilets, swimming pool pump housing, fencing, etc. At best we keep pushing vagrants out of buildings and brick up “holes”. It is important that the area is well maintained until such time as a solution, to deal with vagrants, is found.

Dumping

We appeal to residents to ensure the sub-contractors for buildings or garden services, bush clearing and tree felling use the Arlington Tip and not the Boet Erasmus Stadium area or the bush behind the airport where the road leads to Maranatha or the Water Works.

Mr Phumelele Marlaza, Deputy Director Municipal Waste Management Department, recently joined SSNW'S Ian Millar on a tour to see firsthand some of the mess lying around Summerstrand much of which has been created by vagrants and some uncaring residents.

The city ranger, Mr. Elton Swart, has been asked to assist us in the fight against dumping. Currently dumping fines are in the region of **R2000**.



Summerstrand Transfer Station (The Tip)

The Tip is situated just past Sasol on the left-hand side of Strandfontein Road when travelling in the direction of La Roche Drive.

Whilst the tip is a place where we discard our garden refuse and other items, we like to throw away like old chairs, mattresses, pieces of metal, plastic, wood, cans, bottles, etc. It is also a major source of income and building material for what is called our Summerstrand vagrants (homeless people). The vagrants operate "skurrel" at night or early hours of the morning, removing any items of perceived value and carting the rubbish into their shack areas situated in the bushes around us. It is here where they crush cans and sort out refuse from the tip for building use or onward sale to some backyard scrap dealers. So, you must understand that our tip is a "gold mine" and those mining there are from the northern areas and New Brighton as well as Walmer Township.

SSNW has, for obvious reasons, focused on the tip in an attempt to improve the safety of our residents who go there and minimize night time and early "mining" activity at The Tip.

- SSNW has repaired the sliding track of the gate and also made it difficult to lift the gate off the track. We thank Mr. Vernon Peterson of Automation and Electronic Security for his assistance.
- We have also used member contributions to remove a lot of the Port Jackson Willow surrounding the tip. We thank Lee Roy and his brother, Waldo, for cutting and Ian and Thomas for removing the Port Jackson Willow.
- In addition, the team working at the tip has also done a good job tidying up, clearing, and planting gardens and painting a "Welcome" sign, etc. All-in-all the place is looking much better and the vibe amongst those working there has improved since the return of Mr. Moosa.

On a more serious note, we continue to have some residents who will offload all sorts of rubbish in front of the gate at night or very early morning leaving a huge mess for the staff to clean up. We appeal to residents to please refrain from doing this as those caught by the ranger will receive hefty fines.



Transfer Station Rules

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality

Operating Hours: 07h30am – 16h30pm

1. Users

Private households

Property owners only

2. Accepted

One ton bakkie load maximum per day

Normal garden refuse only

Household junk

3. Not Accepted

Loads bigger than one ton per day

Branches larger than two metres

Tree stumps

Rocks, sand and building rubble

Kitchen waste

Carcasses

Trade waste

Waste generated by garden services

THE FORT

"The Battle for Brookes Hill"

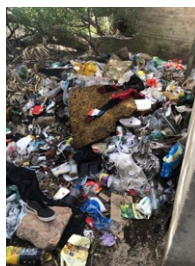
Many of our residents would have seen the article on the Fort at Brookes Hill. This was on the front page of the Weekend Post 3rd September 2022.

Regrettably, the two forts are in very poor condition and serve no purpose other than to provide homes for numerous vagrants. Both the inside and outside area are littered with filth and human waste. Rust and broken concrete and filth on walls greet you when having a site inspection.

Apart from providing sanctuary for the vagrants and other dubious characters, it is also a logistic hub for moving drugs down to the beachfront.

SSNW has been talking to representatives of the developers who own the land, in order to see who is responsible to clean up, brick-up or break down what has, tragically, become an eyesore.

As these are heritage buildings, there is quite a process involved and the developers' architects are talking to the necessary authorities in Bisho.

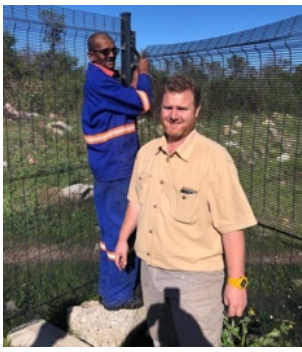


Forest Hill Cemetery

Since our last newsletter, we have been busy organizing razor wire across the south fence of the cemetery. This involved stringing up approximately 300 metres of razor wire above the fence. We would like to thank Cape Gate's Messrs Eugene Human and John Strumpher, for donating the razor wire and André Varsvlei of Cemetery Maintenance for all their support.

We are pleased to advise that we have not had any more incidences at the cemetery for the last eight weeks. SSNW will be adding a further 70 metres to further secure the area.

FOOTNOTE: It is common knowledge that our city is currently in a difficult situation but public/private partnerships on selected projects can make a big difference.



THE BADGE

Since our last newsletter, Shaun has captured one Boomslang, one Western Natal Green Snake and three puffadders. The hotspots at the moment are the Gomery and Richardson area. Snake activity is definitely on the increase across the bay, as well as ticks because of all of the rain that we have had. Shaun Robert's advice for the residents is that we ensure that our yards are always kept clean and free of any rubble and garden refuse.



Shaun also captured a Certificate of Appreciation which he received from Humewood Police Station under Brigadier Bentley. Shaun, an SSNW member and Police Reservist received this certificate for assisting a member of the public who was impressed with his level of service.

We are very proud of our member, Shaun, who says "It is a privilege to be part of the community and to be able to serve and protect."

SSNW DRIVE-BY SHOW OF STRENGTH

This exercise on Saturday, the 10th September 2022 clearly demonstrated that our motto, "Together We Are Stronger", is most appropriate.

The day started with our patrollers and SAPS and Metro, Atlas, City Wide, FADT, Traffic Department, the ranger and the big,

red fire engine all arriving on the Second Avenue sports field, ready to move out at 08h15.

We were honoured to have the Humewood SAPS and Metro Police top brass present and we thank them all for taking time out to support the SSNW members of their Community Policing Forum. Warrant Officer Van der Berg, Brigadier Bentley, thank you as well as Colonel Paulsen from Metro Police.

We left the sports field on time and followed the route down Admiralty Way along Marine Drive and Beach Road to Kings Beach and back to Something Good. Great fanfare, plenty of sirens and hooting. We wanted our Summerstrand community to see our network of security players with which we network and on whose support we can rely.

After a few welcome speeches we observed a demonstration by our K9 unit – short but effective.

Despite organizing some specials with Grant Davies at Something Good, the public turnout was a little disappointing. We would like to thank all who attended.

Thanks to Lerryn Mew of Engel & Volkers for the use of their gazebo and for the soft drinks and Glenn Pappin for the use of his sound system and to all who helped put everything together.

To Jason Browne of the Paintball Shop in Newton Park, thank you for supporting us with your presence, your gazebo and security products that you sell.

Last, but not least, thanks to SAPS for putting up their Imbizo stand and information pamphlets.

Head on over to our Facebook Page (Summerstrand Neighbourhood Watch) to see what the day was like! A huge thanks to Pieter Binsbergen, Xavier Binsbergen and Leonie Binsbergen for an awesome video!



Our Furry Friends

Our SSNW Administrator, Lerryn Mews, decided that this year, for her birthday, she would do something special for charity. Something that would include her friends. Lerryn chose to clean and paint some of the dog runs in bright, eye-catching

colours, encouraging the public to adopt the animals and, also, lift the spirits of the folk who tirelessly work there.

Many of Lerryn's friends tackled the project on the 18th and 19th June and in lieu of birthday gifts they brought paint rollers and brushes and, ofcourse, gave of their time.

SSNW also wanted to be involved in this birthday project and so Thomas van Deemter and Ian Millar got involved in fund raising, fetching and carrying paint and sponsoring two assistants. A fun time was had by all and those that sponsored this project were extremely generous.

Sponsors for Animal Welfare Society Project

Dogs Cats & Friends

Nicholas Gomes, Jaundré van Huysteen

City Paint and Tool

Patrick Gillespie

SSNW (Summerstrand Neighbourhood Watch)

Braddon McCelland

Russell Booth

Thomas van Deemter

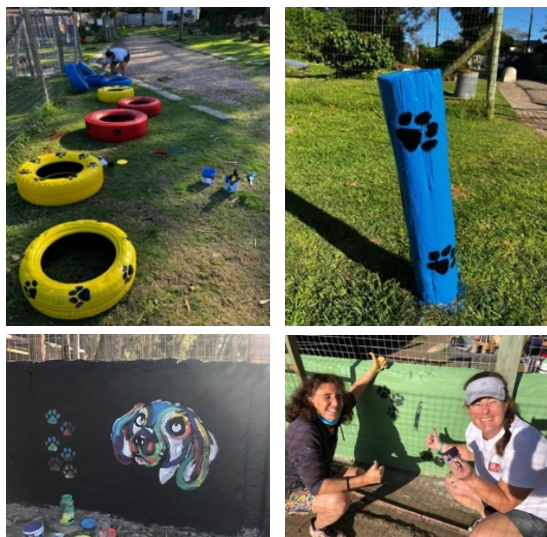
Ian Millar

Midas Walmer – Mark Pohlmann

Braemar Paints – Faye vd Merwe

Barkhuizen Tyres - Brad

We would like to thank all who generously sponsored this project, both in pet products and with paint, brushes, rollers and time. Thanks to Lerryn and all her friends for a lovely furry friend project.



“Return of the Trolleys”

Whilst out on patrol our patroller found two trolleys in the bush near Forest Hill. These trolleys were new and had been removed from the Boardwalk Shopping Mall. The trolleys belonged to Pick 'n Pay and Checkers. Vagrants had removed the trolleys, using the bush trails adjacent to Happy Valley as their path to the Forest Hill area.

Vagrants who can afford it will pay R50 or more for a trolley which enables them to cart more away when doing their “shopping” at the Tip or in our suburbs on a Monday. Shopping Centres and their security companies are requested to look at improving the management and security of the trolleys.



Humewood Road Block Delivers Results

This was indeed a very effective roadblock and it should be done on a regular basis. In three hours, 127 fines were issued, some vehicles impounded, drunken driving at 7:15am and then your normal car licence, etc.

Well done to our new Mayor, Retief Odendaal and his MMC for safety and security, Councillor Lawrence Troon for being in “the thick of it” and leading from the front!



Thank you to our security partners!

A BIG thank you goes out to all of our public and private sector security and emergency services partners. We would not be able to do any of this without you and your support!



Our Stats!



Crime Reporting Group: 630



Members: 265



Active Patrollers: 48

Contact Us

Scan the code to become a member:



Mail: ssnwatch@gmail.com

Mobile: **083 278 3772**

Please support our social media accounts:

Twitter: [@SSNWatch](https://twitter.com/SSNWatch)

Instagram: [@SSNWatch](https://www.instagram.com/SSNWatch)

Facebook: Summerstrand Neighbourhood Watch

Website: www.ssnwatch.co.za