



Bryanston East Community Forum

Section 21 company Reg No 2004/011551/08

Bryanston East
Community Forum
November 2005

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End of year update

We are suitably embarrassed that it has taken us this long to get this news letter out. Life has been incredibly hectic for all involved in the community forum and we can only apologise.

We have however had some great leaps forward and we are happy to be able to update you on them.

- As some of you may know Vonnie left us to move onto greener pastures. We are very happy to say that Avril Hannah has joined us on a full time basis and is making a huge difference. She is an ex-school teacher who lives in the area and is really keeping us all on the straight and narrow.
- Our deal with COIN Security is working very well. They are slowly signing up more clients in our area and their patrol vehicles have already made several pro-active arrests. We would appeal to all our residents to consider signing up with COIN for their armed response. Just phone (0861)002323.
- Our weekly meetings with COIN and the SAPS paint a fairly scary picture of what is actually happening in our community. We still have an average of 10 to 15 cases reported every week, some of which are minor but a fair number are actually very serious.
- COIN have donated two radios to us in recent weeks, one for our local SAPS and one for the river rangers who patrol the river. For the first time ever, the armed response and SAPS are on the same radios and it really is working.
- We have initiated a reward system amongst the domestics and security guards in our area for any information which leads to an arrest. This bright idea will probably drain our coffers but it really is working. As a result of information passed on to our office or to Inspector Ramdiyali at least 8 arrests have been made in the past two months. Two stolen vehicles and property from 3 house robberies have also been recovered.
- We are happy to be able to report that we now have two policemen dedicated to our sector. Constable Sascha Wittmann has joined Lee as part of our sector.
- Along that line, we were approached by the SAPS to house one of their special units consisting of upto 20 policemen due to space constraints at the Sandton police station. They will not be dedicated to our area but if they are based here we will by default improve the policing in our area. We very rapidly negotiated with the scouts and have put down a temporary office at the scout hall. It is not a charge office so please do not try to report your crimes there (for now anyway?).
- We have had some very good meetings with Director Mbweni who is now in charge at Sandton and had a very positive response. He fully supports our initiatives so if you have any issues please drop Avril a line and we will happily follow-up.
- Our three full-time cleaners have made a huge difference around the streets and parks in our area. Literally thousands of bags of refuse have been picked up and removed from the area.
- We have also taken a huge leap on this front and have been donated a brand new Nissan bakkie to get the guys and their equipment around the area.
- We recently negotiated a deal with a water testing company Inspectorate M&L , who are now testing our river water on a regular basis. We are now in discussions with Joburg Water about the first set of results and what can be done to improve the quality of the water. I am not an expert, but please do not swim in the water—it is definitely not safe.
- We have been asked by City Parks to get involved and assist them with the fixing up and running of the bird sanctuary on Hans Crescent. (near River Road) We are hoping that within the next few months we will all as a community be able to have our own safe eco-friendly area.

We end with an appeal to all the residents—without your support (and money) our initiative will not grow. If you are not a member please fill in the attached form and fax it to the community office. We do need the support, so please stop saying :

- I have never heard of BECF.
- I keep meaning to pay but don't know who to get hold of .
- My wife keeps forgetting to send in the form.
- I pay my rates so why should I pay more?

If you sign up with COIN as per our agreement you will only be paying R250 / month which is a lot cheaper than your current armed response, so you can easily afford R100 / month as a member of BECF.

Have a good Christmas break and please think about all the SAPS and guarding personnel who will be looking after your property while you are away. We do all get irritated with them when they don't perform, but what are we doing to help them?

We look forward to seeing you at our last sector meeting of the year on Thursday 1st December at 18h30 at St Michaels Church in Mount Street

Regards
Russell Kleyn and Gail Prior

Other news

- Depending on how many people remember to make their monthly payments we are getting in about R17 000 / month at this stage, and have about R25 000 in the bank. (A more detailed financial summary is available on our web site www.becf.co.za).
- About 9% of the community are contributing on a regular basis and we are probably getting 3 new members every week.
- We hope to be able to increase our clean-up team over the next few months so that we can have people working in all the different areas at the same time. They will also act as eyes and ears for the security team. Unfortunately this as always needs money.
- We are negotiating with City Parks to work with them from both a cleaning and security point of view in our open areas. This is a fairly slow process and we will keep you informed when we make any progress.

Crime situation in our area

The crime situation in our area has not improved at all. We are still experiencing about 40 to 50 crimes every month ranging from theft of motor vehicles, to housebreakings and more serious crimes.

As always we actually believe that these statistics are low, because people do not report their cases. Please if you do not feel like reporting the case to the SAPS, at least phone the community office so that we get a more accurate picture of the stats in our area.

If you see any suspicious activities, please report it. Do not automatically assume that someone else will. Even if you do not contact 10111 at least phone the community office, Inspector Lee Ramdiyal on (083) 775-4674 or Sascha Wittmann on (082)493-1300. He will either get the reaction guys or COIN to have a look.

As always the crimes in our areas are linked to building sites. If you have a problem near you please phone the office and we will request a raid. If you are building please :

- Make sure that your builders are legal citizens.
- Get their ID documents checked by the SAPS.
- Make sure that they do not live on the site, and get up to mischief at night.
- Employ a security guard to keep vagrants off the site.
- Keep your building refuse under control. Why do the rest of us have to look at your refuse?
- Play by the rules and be fair to your neighbours and the community

Avril's beat

I joined BECF mid September and have been busy out and about within the community meeting some of our members, attending various meetings concerning the environment, requesting donations for our recent Fun Day, liaising with Inspector Lee Ramdiyal of SAPS and COIN security, co-ordinating and motivating our young team of cleaners who regularly go out and clean up any litter within our environment.

A big thank you to all who helped to make our Fun Day such a success. Special thanks to the Tijuana Spur at the Bryanston Shopping Centre who donated food for our function. Thank you too to Woolworths Riverside Shopping Centre, Checkers Bryanston Shopping Centre and also to Spar Madison Food. Special mention to SAPS, COIN Security, Johannesburg Fire Department and the River Rangers who provided the ponies for the kiddies pony rides. Thank you too to Ronnie Youngelson from Lotsmore Promotions who donated all the golf shirts and caps with the embroidered BECF logo – very smart! Our clean up team can also be easily recognised with their smart attire.

The highlight of the day was when the kids were given carte blanche to paint and decorate our brand new Nissan bakkie. Needless to mention our bakkie is now very visible as we drive around the BECF area loading up the litter bags to bring to a central point for collection by Pickup.

Clifford our senior cleaner is currently learning to drive the bakkie. BECF are paying for his driving lessons so you will soon see our team even more proactively involved with our project.

Pickup have now donated a designated skip which has been placed next to the Scout hall entrance. This will be used to dump all the rubbish collected by our clean up team and will be emptied on a weekly basis. This will facilitate our clean up campaign and add more effectiveness within our community.

Our fight against crime was assisted recently when Inspector Lee Ramdiyal was assigned Constable Sascha Wittmann to help him within his sector. They work very effectively as a team within the community area.

Since our last newsletter we sent out flyers offering rewards to domestic workers and gardeners within our community for any information leading to an arrest or conviction. We have had quite a success rate with incentives being paid out to various individuals. We even had the flyers translated into Sotho and Zulu to spread the message more effectively.

As a direct result of the flyers Inspector Lee Ramdiyal and Constable Sascha Wittmann of SAPS and the COIN personnel have been kept on their toes and made some good arrests.

Regards

Avril

BRYANSTON EAST COMMUNITY FORUM**REGISTRATION FORM**Your Name: Mr./ Mrs./ Miss./ Dr. _____
(First Names) (Surname)

I.D. No.: _____

Physical Address: _____	Postal Address: _____
Suburb: _____	Suburb: _____
Code: _____	Code: _____
Tel (Home): _____	Tel (Work): _____
Cell No. _____	E-Mail: _____
Do you live in a road closure? Yes/No	Name of closure: _____
Are you linked to Armed Response? Yes/No	Name of company: _____

Preferred method of payment _____**DEBIT ORDER ADVICE IF REQUIRED**

I/We, the undersigned, authorise **Bryanston East Community Forum** to deduct an amount of R_____ per month. I/We understand that all withdrawals shall be treated as if signed by me/us personally. I/We understand that this instruction can be cancelled by me/us by giving **Bryanston East Community Forum** 30 days written notice.

Bank: _____	Branch Code: _____
Account No: _____	Branch Name: _____
Account Holder: _____	Type of Account: _____
Amount per mth: R_____	Amount in words: _____
First payment date: _____	

Signature: _____ Date: _____

OUR BANKING DETAILS**Beneficiary Details: BRYANSTON EAST COMMUNITY FORUM**

Bank Name: Nedbank	Branch Name: Sandton
Account No: 1970842695	Branch No: 197005
Account Type: Current	

Please complete the above form and drop it off at our office at the Scout Hall on River Rd, or Fax to **463-5310**. Alternatively contact the office and someone will collect it.

Office	(011)463-6066
Avril Hannah	(082)396-8866
Russell Kleyn	(083)325-0245
Gail Prior	(083)307-1232