

## **DRA NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2007**

Dear Residents

Most of you will by now have received some email via this forum. In the initial mailings we received numerous bounce backs and are in the process of following these up and correcting the databases.

Being an easy and convenient means of communication, e-mail will allow us to keep you updated regularly on issues important to the community, including of course the crime data. And it is an easy forum by which you can communicate with the committee regarding your concerns. No doubt we'll progress to a "blog" one of these days, but for the moment we will provide feedback on your concerns via this forum.

Therefore please add the DRA email to your address book: [drainfo@gmail.com](mailto:drainfo@gmail.com)

The DRA committee meets once per month, is voluntary and all members give of their time gratis. The meetings are in essence a discussion forum, however progress is sometimes stifled due to the unavailability of expertise. In this regard we are desperately seeking people with the following skills, who are prepared to give a small portion of their time:

Laywers  
Accountants  
Marketing gurus  
Fundraisers  
Webmasters

Did you know that the Ethekwini municipality now has an email address for reporting all faults and problems related to their services. This means that you no longer get endlessly shoved from pillar to post when fault reporting. As people who live in the area we all have a right to demand that the municipality fulfills its functions properly. However if they are not informed about problems, then they can't possibly fix them - and don't think that someone else may have already reported the fault - the more emails on an issue, the greater the pressure. Once you have reported a fault you will receive a return mail, giving a reference number and thereafter you will be regularly be copied in on the progress. It works, we have had potholes and manhole covers repaired through this reporting system. Be sure however to provide precise info, for example if street lamps are not burning, then be sure to state for example " street lamps no's 1-15, Dawncliffe road, Dawncliffe, Westville, not burning for three consecutive nights" etc etc

The email address is : [Eservices@dmws.durban.gov.za](mailto:Eservices@dmws.durban.gov.za) .

There is also a phone number to use when reporting lost or stolen bank cards, ID documents, etc.: [011 869 6460](tel:0118696460).

### Crime report

There have been several incidents in the area over recent months, with break -ins and/ or intruders reported at Trevor Road, Cotswold Drive, Spring Grange Rd, Ribston Rd, McNess Rd., and Chiral Drive.

At the latest CPF meeting, Superintendent Deon Singh (Westville SAPS station commander) gave the following, as part of his talk.

"Be part of the solution, not part of the problem."

## **CABLE**

**C** - Communication - is a vital part of crime prevention - communication with your neighbours, with SAPS and with the security companies.

**A** - Apathy - the more apathy there is in the community, the more chances there are for criminals.

**B** - Bushes - clear the bushes around your property and drive from the ground up, so there is no place for criminals to hide.

**L** - Lighting - improve the lighting inside and outside your property.

**E** - Education - educate family, domestics, neighbours, and visitors about crime prevention.

The DRA and the survival of the guarding scheme remains tenuous. As always we appeal to all residents to contribute to this the scheme in order to ensure its financial viability. Please contact us via our email and we will follow up with you directly.

All the best for Spring!!

Dawncliffe Residents' Association

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Web: [www.thewestvilleco-op.co.za/DRA.shtml](http://www.thewestvilleco-op.co.za/DRA.shtml)