

Newsletter: February 2020

Kalk Bay and St James experienced another successful and peaceful holiday season. Residents and visitors will have noticed an increased presence of SAPS, City Law Enforcement and Traffic officers during this period, which greatly assisted our joint efforts to ensure orderly and law abiding behaviour.

Staff from the City's Cleansing and Parks and Recreation departments all contributed to keeping the Main Road, our beaches and amenities in good condition for the enjoyment of all. The SRA thanks them all for their hard work and genuine dedication to village. We also thank our security contractor, Lake Security, for their sustained good performance over this period.



In addition, the SRA programme, funded by a generous grant from PETCO, to keep the harbour beach clean ensured that this loved amenity was shared by many law-abiding visitors.

Public Safety

The total number of incidents of crime reported during 2019 was 77, which was less than the number of 99 in 2018 and considerably less than in the years before the LS patrols commenced. This is another good performance, particularly in view of reports of increased criminal activity in neighbouring areas.

Lake Security maintained their good performance of visiting each of the 71 monitoring points throughout St James and Kalk Bay 8.7 times per 24-hour period in December and 7.6 times in January. This is double the contracted frequency of 4 times every 24 hour period. This is particularly commendable considering staff absences over the holiday period.

Although the number of incidents of reported crime was contained to only 5 in December, this sharply escalated to 15 in January, mainly due to Law Enforcement's difficulty in containing incidents of petty crime as a result of the large number of visitors in the Kalk Bay station and Dalebrook areas.

The SRA currently has 10 security cameras in place throughout Kalk Bay and St James and has recently acquired 5 additional security cameras together with additional monitoring equipment. These are currently being installed in various strategic locations in Kalk Bay and St James. This will result in the SRA monitoring images from 15 of its cameras positioned throughout our area. The SRA intends to install more cameras during the course of this year.

Also, the SRA has agreed with Law Enforcement for the SRA to install monitoring screens in the Law Enforcement offices at Muizenberg to enable them to monitor and quickly react to suspected criminal activity in our village.

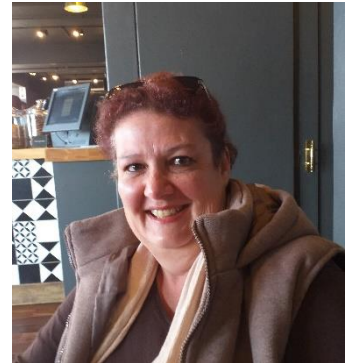
These initiatives should significantly contribute to enhancing the SRA's Public Safety initiatives.



Social Development

Anna Els, our Social Development Coordinator, has been very busy on various initiatives:

- She conducted a joint operation with Law Enforcement on 8 January during which 9 homeless people were encountered and one was arrested.
- Anna has been granted a job by St James Primary School to provide counselling help. This will assist with her contacts in the village.
- Anna has assisted the Department of Labour interview a number of homeless people in our area with a view to assist them find employment
- Anna is also actively assisting UTurn and other NGOs find and secure suitable accommodation in the Muizenberg area for the growing number of homeless people in our wider area
- Her weekly consultations at our offices for those in need continue to be in demand
- She has also developed improved relations with the staff at the Haven Night Shelter.



Environmental Upgrade



Residents and visitors will have noticed the much-improved state of the gardens at Danger Beach. This is due to the initiative and hard work of a working group of local residents. The SRA continues to make financial contributions towards the upgrade of the park.

The SRA also contributes towards the maintenance of the Dalebrook pool gardens and the garden at the entrance to the harbour. We again thank all those who are involved with these projects and the many other private initiatives for the maintenance of public spaces and gardens in our village.

The Concert in the Park will be held on 8 March. Notices advertising this event will be sent out nearer the time.