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Focus on Sunninghill brings to you **The Sunninghill Archivist**. Richard Pearce-Moses wrote, "Archivists keep records that have enduring value as reliable memories of the past, and they help people find and understand the information they need in those records." **Contributions may be sent to The Archivist suncommunity@iafrica.com**

WHAT CAUSES WATER SEEPAGE IN SUNNINGHILL ESTATES?

Have you ever wondered why there's a constant flow of water running down Rutherford Road? A burst water main perhaps? Or backwash from a swimming pool?

And why is the water table unusually high in some areas along Edison Crescent?

Well, José Clara has the answer.



There's a dolerite dyke running across the suburb from north to south. In the north it surfaces as the rocky outcrop in the Rockymead Heritage Park. It then crosses Rutherford Road, dipping downhill towards the vlei in the central park. The dyke then crosses Faraday Road at Number 23, runs down the park strip to Edison Crescent, which it crosses at Number 33.

The dyke is a natural barrier to groundwater flowing from part of Sunninghill Gardens and also from Megawatt Park. So the water dams up to form an underground lake.

José was one of the original Eskom land surveyors who pegged out Sunninghill Estates in the late 70s. It was then mostly a grassy plain. But an indigenous forest grew around the dyke outcrop in the vicinity of a natural fountain close to Number 5. So that's where José staked out his property. Since moving in, he's had to install drains to keep his garden from becoming waterlogged.

José came to South Africa in 1974, having left Mozambique with R50 in his pocket. Not only a surveyor and environmentalist responsible for finding the most suitable alignment for Eskom's power lines, but he's also an amateur geologist and archaeologist with a keen eye for spotting valuable artefacts. So it's thanks to him that the Rockymead Heritage Park has been saved for posterity.

Did you know the names 'Pongola' and 'Komati' mean 'gold' in a south Indian dialect? This suggests the earliest foreign traders in these parts were not necessarily the Dutch, Portuguese or British. Indian traders may have visited the remnant of what could have been the largest and most ancient city on earth – a city larger than present day Johannesburg situated 150km away. Professor Revil Mason confirms that the ruins of over 100 000 stone structures have been found in Mapumalanga.

If South Africa is the cradle of humankind, why not also the cradle of civilisation?
(See www.thecrit.com/2009/01/22/discovering-the-oldest-manmade-structures-on-earth/)

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**REPORT ILLEGAL DUMPING IN OUR AREA – HELP
US KEEP SUNNINGHILL CLEAN!!**



Visit the Sunninghill Community or Sunninghill Gardens websites: www.sunninghillnews.co.za click on the *Report illegal dumping* button and follow the instructions.

Do not let these criminals get away with it



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"don't expect the usual"

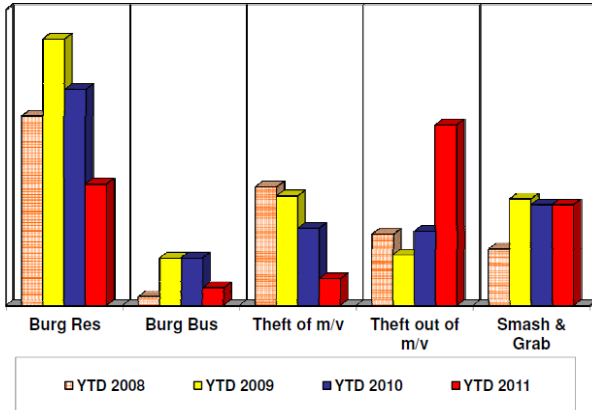
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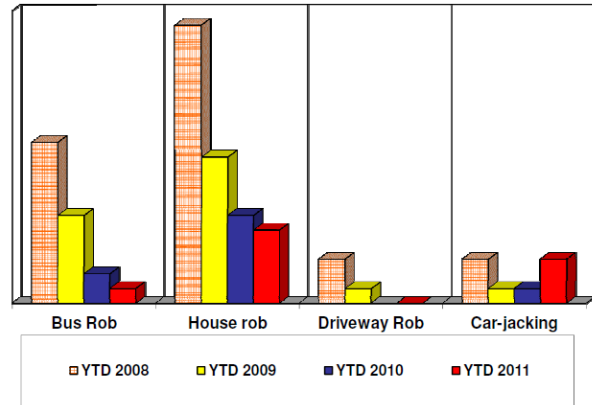
Sunninghill Community Security fights back!!

Sunninghill Community Security with the assistance of our preferred security provider Savika Armed Response and the Sandton Saps have made huge inroads into the fight against crime in our suburb. Below are the latest crime statistics as at the end of August 2011 (in red) compared to the same period 2008/9/10. Robberies refer to armed robberies.

SUNNINGHILL VEHICLE, BUSINESS AND RESIDENTIAL THEFT
CRIME STATS AUGUST YTD
2008/9/10/11



SUNNINGHILL VIOLENT CRIME STATS AUGUST YTD
2008/9/10/11



The two areas we have however not been very successful in is the **theft out of motor vehicles** which has skyrocketed. These occur mostly in shopping centres and most of them involve the use of the remote jamming device. The Saps, newspapers, emails and newsletters have warned the community about these crimes, however residents continue leaving laptops and other valuables in their vehicles and continue not checking to see if their cars are indeed locked after they have locked them with their remote.

The other crime we have been battling with over a number of years are smash and grabs. These are extremely difficult to prevent. The majority of these have occurred on the cnr of Maxwell and Witkoppen roads, followed by the cnr of Witkoppen and Bowling Avenue. Well no more!! We do hope now to be able to reduce or eliminate this problem from the Maxwell and Witkoppen intersection thanks to the generosity of Eskom. Eskom have sponsored our newest cluster of cameras at this intersection and our very first Thermal camera, shown below. The idea behind the thermal camera is to be able to detect the "would be smash and grabber" before he arrives at the road. Once at the road, the smash and grabber hits very quickly and disappears just as quickly into the open land and onto the highway, where there is often a getaway car waiting. With our new thermal camera and analytical software, the minute anyone enters this area an alarm is activated in our control room and the individual is highlighted in red. The controller now immediately dispatches one of the dedicated Savika Armed Response vehicles giving us more time to get to this area and apprehend or chase away anyone with ideas of helping themselves to valuables from innocent motorists. During the peak hour times of the morning and night, you will in addition have noticed a Savika vehicle parked in this area. This vehicle is not one of our dedicated vehicles but one donated by our security provider to assist us in putting an end to this crime. Thank you Eskom and thank you Savika.



In this instance our dedicated vehicle arrived before this person **in red** reached Maxwell Drive. Was he going to smash and grab? We don't know but when he saw the Savika vehicle arrive, he carried on walking up Maxwell Drive towards the World of Golf.

Thermal cameras work on temperature. Everything, both human and not have a temperature. The image above is taken at 15h30 in the afternoon when everything, ground, humans, vehicles etc all have a relatively high heat emission. At night the contrasts become greater as the air, ground etc becomes colder and therefore darker (the hotter the whiter the object appears in the picture). The advantage of this is that absolutely no lights are needed but our camera can still pick up humans (and a few nights ago a rabbit) in the middle of the night.

Our thermal camera is an exciting new addition to our many other cameras and has enormous potential in our suburb where long distance surveillance in extreme conditions is needed. Perimeters along major roads? Monitoring of activity along the Sandspruit River now we have almost completed the cleanup. The potential for cameras such as the one sponsored by Eskom, shown above are enormous.



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HALLOWEEN: For those that are wishing to trick and treat in Sunninghill Gardens : this years walk about will be held on Saturday the 29th of October from 16h30 until 18h30. Those taking part dress up and have fun, those not – make sure you stock up on sweets for our “darling” little monsters.



THANK YOU FROM THE COMMUNITY OF SUNNINGHILL:

- City Parks for donating 102 trees within the last two weeks - bringing a total of 2900 donated since 2009.
- Sunninghill Hospital for donating free CPR lessons to the Community, the first lesson on the 8th October for our traffic wardens and Community School staff. Look out for emails regarding next session.
- To residents reporting trucks dumping in our area .
- To the Riverside Manor resident for saving the life of a little puppy that had been dumped in a litter bin and the lady who was running past for helping find a home for this little dog.
- To Badger Park for donating tyres found on their property to Synoptic Survival Crusade Church, for the Lindokuhle Educare Centre in Ivory Park
- To Real Life Church who have offered to assist the Cancer Association of South Africa with the venue for the Breast Cancer Awareness Talk which will be held on Wednesday 26th October, 18h00 onwards – Real Life Church – The Core Centre.

LOOKING FOR A DOMESTIC YOU CAN RELY ON?

I would like to give my strong recommendation for Silver Khupe. She has been working for us for nine years now and we have been very happy with her work, honesty and her companionship. Silver Khupe is reliable with the housekeeping duties. She is very honest and organized. She has looked after our home and animals whilst away on leave. She is good with helping the children with all tasks even homework occasionally. Throughout the years, she has truly made our home comfortable to live in. She is a good cook and she consistently provides us with lovely dinners. She is also meticulous in handling the laundry and has shown good care in washing delicate fabrics and clothing. Silver Khupe is an invaluable asset to any household, and I highly recommend hiring her. If you'd like to discuss her background and work history in detail, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely, Mrs Gibson Tel 074 197 9500

SUNNINGHILL ACCREDITED ESTATE AGENTS MAKE US PROUD

A year ago Sunninghill Community Security launched the Accredited Estate Agents initiative in Sunninghill. Estate Agents were required to provide to the Ratepayers:

- ✓ proof of their being registered with the relevant Estate Agent boards;
- ✓ abide by the rules of the Ratepayers Association and by laws with regards to pointer, for sale and other similar boards;
- ✓ become a member of the Sunninghill Community
- ✓ sign a pledge and become an active member of Estate Agents against crime by ensuring that any new tenant or owner of a property is checked and registered with TPN.

Since its implementation a year ago, Sunninghill has seen a significant drop in the number of crimes being committed in complexes. We do believe that part of the reason for this is that our residents are working with us in eliminating crime by dealing with those agents on our accredited list.

BEFORE YOU BUY; SELL; LET OR RENT YOUR PROPERTY, please check the list of Agents that are members of Sunninghill Community and Estate Agents against crime by visiting:

www.sunninghillnews.co.za - click on the Accredited Estate Agents page on your left.