16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM
Gender-based abuse and abuse against vulnerable groups, such as persons living with disabilities and the elderly, are disturbingly rife. They are problems that the SAPS is fighting ferociously. Campaigns, outreach projects, the re-establishment of specialised units are only a few of the many initiatives that the organisation embarked on to rid the nation of this evil. The SAPS also took part in the recent 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children Campaign, hosting numerous events in support of this campaign. During this period, we also commemorated two very important dates, namely World Aids Day on 1 December 2014 and the International Day of People with Disabilities on 3 December 2014. Both these days were met with enthusiasm and various events were held in honour of these dates. Detailed, eye-opening pieces on all these activities are in this edition.

Community partnerships remain high on the organisation’s priorities. Establishing and maintaining good relations with the community not only help in crime reduction, but in poverty alleviation and harmonious cohabitation in general as seen on pages 16, 17 and 20.

Our men and women in blue work tirelessly to rid our nation’s streets of crime. It is important that we give credit where it is due when convictions are acquired as in the securing of two life sentences for the brutal murder of a businessman and eight life sentences for a human trafficking case on page 5 and 8 respectively.

Enjoy the read…
Dear colleagues,

Over the past couple of weeks, we have seen increased levels of criticism levelled against the South African Police Service through social media and other platforms. This fierce criticism has, as can be expected, grabbed local media headlines and most certainly occupied many dinner table conversations.

Under these circumstances, we can either succumb to the pressure or press on with the task at hand. What I know with absolute certainty is that we are not confused about the important role that we must play, with distinction, in the fight against crime and the maintenance of law and order. So, soldier on we must and soldier on we will. We will not surrender and we will not give in to the wishes of the critics.

We must, however, take note of the frustration voiced by the public about crime in general, particularly violent crime in our country, which has reached a crescendo following the tragic loss of Bafana Bafana goalkeeper and captain, Senzo Meyiwa.

The SAPS has developed a strategy to combat crime and maintain law and order as mandated in our Constitution. It is also motivating to note ultimately in reducing criminal activities in our country. Community policing plays an important role to play.

We need community members to work with us in this regard. Positive police-society relationship can only translate into a bountiful in police morale and ultimately in reducing criminal activities in our country. Community policing remains at the heart of our Constitutional vision. It is also motivating to note ultimately in reducing criminal activities in our country.

We must serve our people with integrity, meaning that there is no place for corruption and other criminal acts in the police.

As I have said many times before, as an organisation, we cannot function as an organisation, we cannot function to appeal against the sentencing to the community who share with the Department of Basic Education.

In a special operation, a team of experienced detectives from the SAPS’s Head Office in Pretoria studied crime dockets that included serious cases, such as murder, attempted murder, car hijacking, truck hijacking, cash-in-transit heist, bank robbery, rape, sexual assault, common assault, theft of motor vehicle, theft (other), theft of livestock, burglary (residence), burglary (business), shoplifting, arson, malicious damage to property and fraud. This intensive work has yielded phenomenal successes. I am proud to say that the cluster tracking teams, together with detectives throughout the provinces, have worked around the clock and recently arrested the following suspects in connection with these categories of crime:

- KZN: 830
- Mpumalanga: 670
- Gauteng: 562

This figure is likely to grow as we progress toward the peak of the festive season and continue to focus our efforts on six key pillars, namely -

- aggravated/armed robberies (trio crimes)
- enforcing the Acts regarding firearms, liquor, second-hand goods, as well as safety at sports and recreational events
- crimes against women, children and persons with disabilities
- wanted persons who run from justice
- road safety enforcement (traffic management)
- border security.

Let me conclude by using this opportunity to congratulate Lieutenant General Mmamane Mphakwe for her appointment as the Provincial Commissioner of KwaZulu-Natal. We also bid a big farewell to Lieutenant Generals Maluleke (Human Resources Management Division) and Mlotshwa (Provincial Commissioner of Mpumalanga) who left the organisation at the end of October 2014. We thank them for their contributions and wish them everything of the best for the future.

Gen Riah Phiyega

You will have noticed that under the patronage of the Deputy Minister of Police, Mr MM Sotsotsi, police management has embarked on a series of community outreach programmes. We have managed to engage with communities in most provinces and the feedback is encouraging. We have listened to the complaints and complaints from our citizens and are getting a better understanding of their needs in terms of policing and safety. During this round of community engagement, we have put specific emphasis on interacting with schools as school safety remains a concern and a priority which we share with the Department of Basic Education.

Our work must continue unabated. We are greatly encouraged by the successes attained to date in combating targeted crime trends, such as shopping mall robberies. We have so far arrested approximately 80 people.

We have managed to prevent five such robberies and can, therefore, say with confidence that we have broken the back of this crime trend. In addition, last week alone, we removed more than 700 000 Ecstasy tablets from circulation and shut down two drug-manufacturing and distribution suspects before they defrauded Malako stores of millions of rand, saw rhino poachers refused bail in court and traced more than 1 000 wanted suspects in Gauteng and KZN. The same will be done in other provinces over the coming weeks. Our festive season campaign is progressing well and I urge you to continue unabated with your efforts to prevent and combat crime so that our citizens and visitors may enjoy the holidays.

There is no doubt that we must continue to intensify the fight against crime. Equally so, in line with the National Development Plan, we must step up the implementation of plans to professionalise and demilitarise the police.

We must serve our people with integrity, meaning that there is no place for corruption and other criminal acts in the police.

As I have said many times before, as an organisation, we cannot function as an organisation, we cannot function

O/D WO Raymond Meyiwa’s only dream was to become a police officer like his father. It is important to note that police officers then were given different duties according to their skin colour.

“When I started off as a police officer, dark-skinned officers were assigned guard duties and foot beats. You would be patrolling the streets in rainy weather, wearing a rain coat and a light: skin officer would drive in a state vehicle, roll down the window a little and ask for your pocketbook. That did not deter me. I knew I was destined for greater things as a police officer.”

“Thirty-two years later, I am a detective in the SAPS and my team and I have just secured a conviction in the Lawrence Moeapi case. Mr Moeapi was a forensic auditor and was shot five times whilst getting out of his car in the parking lot at his workplace in October last year. No other High Court case had been concluded as swiftly as this one. The trial started on 18 November 2014 and ended on 20 November 2014. The two killers, Remember Siphoro (42) and Mpho Nkosi (39), applied for leave to appeal against the sentencing and conviction, but it was denied.”

“...I am happily married and the father of three girls, of whom the youngest one started university this year. These days I hardly have spare time, but on those rare occasions that I do, you will find me at home in Edenpark at the East Rand, watching all kinds of sport on TV - I love sport.”

“I am not the first high-profile case that I have worked on. One of the many others, was the case of William Mbatha, also known as the ‘king of bing’. He was charged with five counts of robbery with aggravating circumstances and three counts of kidnapping, among other charges and was sentenced to 135 years’ imprisonment.”

Message from the National Commissioner of Police

Detective secures two LIFE SENTENCES

By Itle Keitumetse Mmushi
Photograph(s) by WO Tinylko Mathebula

A s a young boy growing up in Paarl in the Western Cape, I was fortunate to have D/O WO Raymond Meyiwa’s only dream was to become a police officer like his father. It is important to note that police officers then were given different duties according to their skin colour.

“When I started off as a police officer, dark-skinned officers were assigned guard duties and foot beats. You would be patrolling the streets in rainy weather, wearing a rain coat and a light: skin officer would drive in a state vehicle, roll down the window a little and ask for your pocketbook. That did not deter me. I knew I was destined for greater things as a police officer.”

“Thirty-two years later, I am a detective in the SAPS and my team and I have just secured a conviction in the Lawrence Moeapi case. Mr Moeapi was a forensic auditor and was shot five times whilst getting out of his car in the parking lot at his workplace in October last year. No other High Court case had been concluded as swiftly as this one. The trial started on 18 November 2014 and ended on 20 November 2014. The two killers, Remember Siphoro (42) and Mpho Nkosi (39), applied for leave to appeal against the sentencing and conviction, but it was denied.”

“It became apparent during the investigation that this was actually a love triangle. Mr Moeapi was in a relationship with the former partner and mother of Siphoro’s child. It is rumoured that Siphoro had assaulted her prior to Mr Moeapi’s shooting. Things moved swiftly after this revelation. She gave us Siphoro and Nkosi’s cellphone numbers and we applied for a section 205 subpoena to obtain their cell phone records. We noticed that there was a pattern between the two killers and the deceased. They were following him for quite some time. We applied for a warrant of arrest for both men and on 30 November 2013, Siphoro was arrested.”

“The second suspect, Nkosi, was hard to pin down. He was always a step ahead of us. We would go to a house where he was known to stay and when we arrived there, he would evade us. In one of our attempts to apprehend him, he fled but had left behind his cell phone. We downloaded a photograph of him from the cell phone and distributed it to the newspapers, so that the community could help us apprehend him. He was arrested on 6 September 2014 in KwaZulu- Natal, with the help of community members who had seen his photograph in a newspaper.”

“I am happily married and the father of three girls, of whom the youngest one started university this year. These days I hardly have spare time, but on those rare occasions that I do, you will find me at home in Edenpark at the East Rand, watching all kinds of sport on TV - I love sport.”

“This is not the first high-profile case that I have worked on. One of the many others, was the case of William Mbatha, also known as the ‘king of bing’. He was charged with five counts of robbery with aggravating circumstances and three counts of kidnapping, among other charges and was sentenced to 135 years’ imprisonment.”

Part of the team: D/Sgt Steve Phakula and D/Sgt Ian van Rooy with D/O WO Meyiwa.

POLICE December 2014

POLICE December 2014
Forensic Services Kick-Starts
16 Days of ACTIVISM

By WO Stephen Maluleka
Photograph(s) by WO Ndlandle-Ni Nnyambeni

The Forensic Services Division, the Women’s Network, Men for Change and Employee Health and Wellness kick-started the annual 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children campaign with a two-dimensional event. The event that was held at Thaba-Tshwane also provided a platform to observe the National Day of people infected with HIV and AIDS, and was held under the theme: “SPEAK OUT.”

The 16 Days of Activism is an international campaign that started in 1991. According to research since then, over 5 179 groups in 187 countries have taken part. The campaign is observed from 25 November to 10 December to raise awareness of the negative impact that violence has on women, children and society at large.

The campaign was adopted by South Africa in 1998 as one of the intervention strategies towards creating a society free of violence. The campaign continues to raise awareness among South Africans about the heinous ongoing tidal wave of violence against women and children and all members of the society.

Major General Vincent Khunou from the Forensic Services Division affirmed that every man in the SAPS would give their support to women in need and the initiatives implemented to root out abuse. He condemned abusive men and said: “We do not want cowards or men who abuse women.” He went on to describe men who rape young children under the illusion of curing themselves from the incurable disease of HIV/AIDS, as “feeble-minded”.

Brig Annette Morapedi encouraged members to participate in the 16 Days’ activities. She further said that almost everyone has a relative, a friend or a colleague who is exposed to violence; therefore they must speak out if they notice such behaviour. She explained that among the three forms of abuse (sexual, physical and emotional), society tends to ignore the latter; whereas it is more dangerous than all of them combined.

“Some of the poisonous words we say to another, can kill; what we say with our tongue can be dangerous and have far-reaching consequences,” warned Brig Morapedi.

Since the campaign provides a platform to engage stakeholders across race, gender, creed and age to collectively fight this scourge, invited guest Ms Sebalale Kgaraft from Amealafati, encouraged members to speak out and discouraged detractors to stop judging people. “Do not judge me if you do not know my story. Victims cannot speak out because of the stigma and discrimination. Do not be shy - speak out,” she said.

Nomfundo Mazibuko from the South African Defence Force (SANDF) shared her heart-wrenching experience of being gang raped by four men. She told the audience how her dreams were shattered. “My dreams of becoming a wife, of wearing stilettos and being a proud woman, were shattered. I am now a lesbian because I lost those dreams after falling victim to rape,” said Ms Mazibuko.

Sticking to the “SPEAK OUT” theme, Nomfundo further detailed the aftermath of her rape ordeal to the droves of women and learners from Arcadia and Dirang Primary Schools at the event. She told them how the rape had not only cost her her virginity, but had infected her with HIV. She advised those infected by HIV/AIDS not to despair, but to rather turn the lemons that life throw at them into lemonade. “I changed negativity into positivity. Go stand in front of a mirror and tell yourself that you will be living a long life with HIV/AIDS. I am positive within myself, and you have to believe that medication will save your life. Take an about-turn in your life and see HIV/AIDS as a turning point,” she concluded.

To conclude the function, Maj Gen Khunou lit two candles in honour of the souls we had lost through the HIV/AIDS pandemic. This year’s government’s campaign is held under the theme: “Count me in: Together Moving a Non-Violent South Africa Forward”.

Lieutenant Colonel Rose Mampane with guest speaker Mr Mangwane, both commanders of a Focus team from Arcadia Primary School during the 16 Days’ event held recently.
T
he Graskop Regional Court, presided over by Dr Andries Lamprecht, sentenced 62-year-old Nyambi Lloyed Mabuza to eight life sentences for human trafficking and rape. Mabuza was initially arrested on 18 December 2012 on allegations that he had trafficked young Mozambican girls between the ages of 11 and 17 under false pretences. The girls were lured into his trap under the guise of obtaining free education in South Africa.

When the girls arrived in South Africa, they were used as slaves instead of being taken to school. The matter was reported to the police who responded swiftly. It was discovered that the girls were kept under horrible conditions and sometimes they would even go to bed without food. Further investigation led to Mabuza’s arrest and that of his accomplice, a Mozambican woman, 24-year-old Violet Chauke, who is believed to have been used as the “middleman”.

Mabuza was found guilty of four counts of human trafficking for sexual purposes and four counts of rape on 21 November 2014. Chauke was found guilty of three counts of rape on 21 November 2014. Chauke was found guilty of three counts of rape on 21 November 2014. Chauke was found guilty of three counts of rape on 21 November 2014. Mabuza was found guilty of four counts of human trafficking and four counts of rape. He initially pleaded not guilty. He was found guilty of four counts of human trafficking for sexual purposes and four counts of rape.

Chauke, who is believed to have been used as the “middleman”,

By Brig Selvy Mohlala

Mabuza was handed down four life sentences for four counts of human trafficking for sexual purposes and four life sentences for four counts of rape. Chauke was sentenced to 20 years’ imprisonment, which was suspended for five years and she will be deported back to Mozambique. Before deciding to hand down this sentence, the magistrate took into account that Chauke had also once been a victim of human trafficking and had once suffered the same abuse as the victims at the hands of Mabuza. Another factor which influenced Chauke’s sentencing was that she had already spent two years in prison. However, as she had participated in the crime and had not reported it to the police, the court was left with no option, but to impose a considerable sanction, resulting in the suspended sentence.

The Acting Provincial Commissioner of Mpumalanga, Maj Gen Meshack Nogwanya, commented on the investigating officer’s diligent work and commitment to secure this conviction. “We welcome the public to be vigilant and report any suspicious tendencies regarding the treatment of people,” said Maj Gen Nogwanya.

Maj Gen Nogwanya also congratulated the investigating officer, Lt Africa Nyathi, who worked tirelessly and managed to secure this conviction. The court also appreciated the dedication by the investigating officer and the manner in which he handled the case as it made it easier for them to secure a conviction.

8 L
I FE Sentences Meted Out to Businessman for Human Trafficking

The safety of water enthusiasts is one of the SAPS’s top priorities this festive season. As summer temperatures and the festive mood make beaches, rivers, swimming pools and lakes more inviting, the Inland Water Policing and the Diving Unit urge everyone to be more safety conscious before getting into water.

The Section Head of the Emergency Response Services, Brig Chetty Kogie, said that water safety should be everyone’s business and swimmers should be vigilant when those who are unable to swim approach the water for fun activities.

She urged parents to be alert when children were in and around water to prevent them from drowning. She further said that it was advisable to swim in designated areas and to ensure that lifeguards were deployed so that we feel safe and are able to find help quickly, when needed. She said that her unit was ready to deal with any emergency case.

“Our message to all water sports enthusiasts this festive season is to think about safety before getting into the water. Be prepared and keep an eye on the weather and water conditions. If the conditions are unfavourable, put your gear away and have a break,” said Brig Kogie.

Everyone who enjoys a day out on the water, be it fishing, skiing or paddling in a kayak, is reminded to have the appropriate safety equipment with them at all times, including life jackets and safety flares.

By Brig Chetty Kogie

SAPS ISSUE SAFETY TIPS for water enthusiasts

Your passport to water safety:

Do not become a statistic this festive season

• Always be vigilant when children and older people are in the vicinity, as they might need your help when in distress.
• Whenever you plan on going near or into the water, do not consume any alcohol, drugs or medication as this will impair your concentration, calmness thinking and your physical and mental capacity to save yourself or another person in need of distress.
• People who cannot swim should preferably not be allowed into the water, unless under close supervision of an inspector.
• Do not go into the water in inclement weather conditions, for example shortly before dusk or after dawn, as these conditions could make it difficult for others to notice that you are in trouble.
• Never swim alone. Try to give clear hand signals when in distress.
• Do not swim in restricted areas as these areas have been clearly demarcated and classified as such to ensure your safety.
• Take the necessary precautions when swimming in running water and avoid flood waters.
• While boarding a vessel, boat of any size, jet ski, sailboard or windsurfer wear a life jacket as this will keep you afloat and alive, should the vessel capsize.
• Strictly adhere to all regulations pertaining to the use of any vessel as they are designed to ensure your safety.
• Do not assume accidents will not happen to you or your loved ones. Avoid becoming another statistic as accidents could happen to anyone, even to the most experienced and professional water enthusiasts.
• Swim in safe areas, preferably manned by lifeguards.

Policing and the Diving Unit

9 POLICE December 2014

Published by 9POLICE December 2014
The SAPS has grown in stature in international policing. This was evident by the way in which South Africa was received in Monaco at the 83rd Interpol Annual General Meeting in November and the fact that South Africa was one of few invited to present a paper at the AGM.

The Minister of Police, Mr Nathi Nhlrokwe, gave invaluable input with his presentation on organised crime and the country’s response to fighting this scourge.

The Minister was accompanied by the National Commissioner of the SAPS, General Riah Phiyega, the Acting head of Crime Intelligence, General Ronwji Zulu and officials based both in South Africa and at Interpol headquarters in Lyon, France.

The country also used the opportunity presented by the AGM to hold bilateral meetings with a number of countries who share the same passion for fighting organised crime and terrorism. These countries range from Cuba, Argentina, China, Russia, Colombia and Brazil.

Cuba is well known for its extensive contribution to health and education, and has extended it to the policing arena, particularly on crime intelligence, capacity building programmes and the exchange of good practices.

There are also possibilities of cooperating in further developing a community policing model to increase community participation and interaction. Furthermore, Cuba and South Africa agreed to explore areas of shared experience and information pertaining to crime fighting, including issues of transnational crime, immigration and border control, as well as technology.

The National Commissioner also used the opportunity to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Australia, for operational cooperation in the areas of transnational crime, intelligence sharing and capacity building. This was over and above the meeting with all the police chiefs in Africa, which further solidified the country’s stature in the eyes of the policing world.

The Minister and the National Commissioner also met the new Secretary General of Interpol, Dr Jurgen Stock, who pledged to continue support to South Africa as a member country to enhance the capability of law enforcement agencies in the fight against crime, especially transnational, organised crime. In his address, Minister Nhlrokwe urged the gathering of crime fighters from around the world not only to cooperate with their neighbours and other countries, but also to start thinking like criminals in order to catch the breed of sophisticated thugs involved in cyber and other crimes.

“Organised crime groups are now employing specialist skills and professional services like tax consultants, who convert the illicit economy to the licit economy. To counter this, countries need to develop national strategies which are aligned with regional strategies as in the case of the Southern African Development Community; further aligned continental bodies like the African Union and Afropol and eventually global organisations like Interpol and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. All these structures are at various stages of development and have a different impact and value in the fight against transnational, organised crime,” he said.

The general assembly was also celebrating Interpol’s centenary of crime fighting in Monaco, the city that hosted the first International Criminal Police Congress. But much has changed in the 100 years, including the great strides in technology which can help law enforcement agencies to “stay ahead of enterprise criminals,” said former Secretary General Roland Noble.

Crime. The international theme for 2014 is “Sustainable Development: Promise of Technology”. The focus is on the positive impact that technology has on the active participation of persons with disabilities and includes the following:

- Disaster risk reduction and emergency responses
- Creating a working environment that enables persons with disabilities to function effectively
- Sustainable development goals that include persons with disabilities

The 2014 Nappy Run programme started on an enchanting note with the tiny and cute Sishangwane drum maquettes winning the hearts of the audience.

The National Council for People with Physical Disabilities in South Africa (NCPDASA) thanked the SAPS for its contribution for disposable nappies for adults and children with incontinence. An impressive display by the Tshwane Equine Unit confirmed their capabilities in crime prevention and the apprehension of suspects. Next the fitness-conscious members of various Head Office divisions braved the swirling heat for the fun run and walk. When the Head of Disability Management, Lt Gen Mnawdle Mzamane took to the stage, he confirmed the SAPS’ commitment to provide a supportive working environment to ensure the inclusion of members with disabilities. He also said: “Do not think that because you are able-bodied today, that disability has nothing to do with you. Your entire life can change in a matter of minutes, especially in your dangerous working environment. Therefore, you as a SAPS member should purposely support the dignity, rights and well-being of your colleagues with disabilities.”

Thereafter, Lt Gen Nomooyi (retired) explained what CADISAPS is and what benefits paying members have access to. She said: “For a membership of R10 per month, members can apply for assistance in instances of disability, bereavement, and extreme financial need, even after retirement. Detailed budget and expenditure documentation, as well as thorough motivations, are required with all applications.

When Const Sarah Masemane faced the audience in her special wheelchair, she griped the attention of all. In 2008, this young lady was completely able-bodied and went for training at the SAPS Tshwane Academy, after which she excelled and embarked on her career in the SAPS.

Barely three years later, her entire life changed in one moment. On 8 December 2011, someone stepped on her neck and she lost all movement in her upper and lower body. Today Sarah is dependent on others to help her with all physical activities, because she cannot even move her hands. She said: “What happened to me, almost destroyed my family because I was the first in my family, community and workplace to lose everything. You have to understand that disability comes with a package of responsibilities and financial strain.”

“People with disabilities make a significant contribution to the SAPS in jobs matched with their skills and abilities. An effective strategy can ensure savings in terms of health costs for people with disabilities. Disability management practices are the responsibility of all role players in the SAPS.”

In accordance with the International Labour Organisation standards, special positive measures aimed at effective equality of opportunity for and treatment of people with disabilities at work, is not regarded as discrimination against other employees.

The SAPS embraces disability by being an employer of choice for people with disabilities. By Lt Col Erica Holzhausen

Photograph(s) by WO Nndauleni Nyambeni

Celebrating 20 years of the rights of persons with disabilities in our democracy

On 8 December 2011, my life changed forever when someone stepped on my neck. It has been an incredible challenge for my family and myself, but I decided to rise to it. I still have life, I have my brain, I can talk and I can contribute to the workforce.” Const Sarah Masemane. By Lt Col Erica Holtzhausen

Photograph(s) by WO Nndauleni Nyambeni

Celebrating 20 years of the rights of persons with disabilities in our democracy

On 8 December 2011, my life changed forever when someone stepped on my neck. It has been an incredible challenge for my family and myself, but I decided to rise to it. I still have life, I have my brain, I can talk and I can contribute to the workforce.” Const Sarah Masemane.

By Lt Col Erica Holzhausen

Photograph(s) by WO Nndauleni Nyambeni

Celebrating 20 years of the rights of persons with disabilities in our democracy
The mood at this time is simply celebration time! People are ready to get together, party, braai and eat as much as they want to. Most people just want to be surrounded by their loved ones and have a good time. People are in great spirits, are hospitable and generous to share gifts. Christmas makes it easy for people to forget their troubles and the many things that have happened throughout the year. There is a sense of gratitude and hopefulness about life in general.

Very few people have no plans on how to celebrate this day or choose not to make any arrangements in advance. As South Africans, we love this time. Some companies close for the festive season while others have pre-planned leave. Extensive travelling is done across provinces, either to visit families or to go on summer holidays.

The message of Christmas

Christmas Day is about celebrating a special birthday, a day that brought hope for a life of peace, security and joy. This child, whose birth is celebrated on this day, was given names that are valuable in a time such as this to commemorate a “Christmas without You”. He was named Emmanuel, which means God to us and he was to save people. Furthermore, in Isaiah 9 verses 6 and 7, this child was to be called “Wonderful Counsellor and Prince of Peace” and “of the increase of his peace there will be no end”. The child born on this day is a gift to everyone, a gift that brings triumph over hardships, a gift that offers peace in the midst of the storms of life. Christmas assures us of unconditional love, grace in our imperfections and freedom from anything that may hold us back. It reminds us that because this amazing gift was given to us, we can also have the choice to give to others.

A universal meaning

Christmas Day is celebrated around the world by the rich and poor, all races, believers and nonbelievers, the sick and the healthy, the disabled, the successful, the strong and the famous, because of the message it carries. Life may put us in different circumstances and situations, but Christmas unites us as we acknowledge the birth of Jesus Christ.

A time of reflection

Although 25 December historically is not the date on which Christ was born, nations across the world find it proper and relevant that it should be celebrated at this time of the year. There are people who feel alone and discouraged by challenges they have faced over the past year, but then this time cheers us up and gives us new hope. No matter how daunting your reflection is, remember the grace this day brings. Start afresh.

On this Christmas Day, may we be reminded that we can never have a Christmas without the gift that was given to us on this day, a gift of hope, love, peace and victory from the challenges we face in life. A gift that does not come wrapped in bows and ribbons, because it is a gift that is in and with us always.

May we share the spirit of Ubuntu for those who are not so fortunate to spend time with their loved ones and help brighten up their Christmas.

To all those who have lost loved ones and colleagues this year, take this time as an opportunity to be surrounded by family and friends to make new memories that will be treasured forever. To all the employees of the SAPS who will be working hard to secure our roads and homes, may God be with you!

Wishing you a merry Christmas!
I n the name of service delivery and power to people's development and transformation, the South African government developed principles for transforming public service delivery. Esidimeni Batho Pele. People first. Being such a large organisation, with close to 20,000 employees and with more than 1,000 police stations countrywide, it is fair to say that the SAPS may be considered to be the major service delivery point for the Government. A police station is central in the police administration system as well as the efforts to keep communities safe and secure.

I am certain that together with everyone gathered here, you will agree that when you enter a police station, you would expect speedy and professional service. You would not expect to find police officers chatting at the top of their voices about无关, the internal monitor, or blowing chewing gum in your face and looking as if they are assisting you but doing so reluctantly. Maphodisa a tshwanetse go thusa tlotla. Maphodisa a ne a tlotla molao itlotla. Maphodisa a tshwanetse go dirisana mmogo le tlotla maphodisa, ditsotsi tsona, di tshwa gleka ke gape ba ka leboga. Ke rata  fa baagi botlhe ba ka mafura a ladimo se tshwana. Ke a leboga." 

The National Commissioner of the SAPS, General Riah Phiyega, has reaffirmed the public that the police would continue to be committed to fighting the scourge of gender-based violence, not only during the 16 Days of Activism Campaign, but for 365 days a year.

Speaking at the media briefing held at the Mamelodi Community Hall, on 8 November 2014, before the beginning of the 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children Campaign's closing ceremony, General Phiyega emphasised that the police had re-established the Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences (FCS) units, based in more than 170 clusters in the country and dedicated teams to assist victims of domestic violence, sexual offences and harsh treatment to counter this problem. She added that the SAPS had a partnership with the University of Pretoria to continue training forensic social workers so that they are equipped to investigate crimes that are prevalent among vulnerable groups.

General Phiyega also highlighted the establishment of victim-friendly support facilities at police stations, which deal with sensitive cases in a friendly, secure environment, showing the commitment of the SAPS for dealing effectively with issues of gender-based violence.

She praised the Women’s Network and Men for Change for their commitment and for going beyond the call of duty to contribute and participate in community initiatives dealing with social crime issues. She also called on the public to support the police and crime-fighting projects in their communities and to report any form of abuse. She urged them to speak out against violence on women, the elderly and children, including bullying. “To be silent is a crime,” said General Phiyega.

General Phiyega praised the government for creating a platform to fight and speak out against violence on women and children. She said that the government had put in a platform that galvanised the public, the SAPS, government departments and non-governmental organisations to participate in the 16 Days of Activism Campaign in a coordinated manner and to eradicate violence against women and children. “And this is a year-long initiative to address the scourge of violence on women and children that is a stubborn crime that requires us to remain swift in our approach as police,” said General Phiyega.

Meanwhile, the Provincial Commissioner of the Eastern Cape and Chairperson of the Women’s Network, Lt Gen Celine Birta, highlighted that the day’s walk by the members of the SAPS and the Tshwane Metropolitan Police Department was aimed at raising awareness against gender-based violence and child abuse. The walk commenced at the corner of Rammapudi and Shiloahe Streets and ended at the Stanza Bopape Sports Ground in Mamelodi East, and formed part of the closing event of the official SAPS campaign.

General Phiyega and her entourage visited the family of 23-year-old Katlego Ndlovu, who was brutally murdered and her body discovered in an open field on 2 September 2014. They donated food parcels to the family for Christmas. Family spokesperson, Pertunia Chauke, thanked the police for visiting and assisting with the service of a social grant. She said the police had visited the family and ensured that they were provided with the food parcels.

The lessons from these stations will then be taken to the 500 police stations before the end of next year. Like we have done for Wolmaransstad, we will assess the needs of each police station and ensure that they are provided. We have done some minor refurbishments for Wolmaransstad. We are also bringing seven new additional vehicles for the station.

If we can enter 2015 with answering resolve, discipline and courage we will make ourselves the pride of the nation once again. On that point, let me use this opportunity to wish you a peaceful, enjoyable and safe festive season...
The overwhelming outpour of compassion and support from the community at large for the families of police officers who had died in the line of duty, touched their families’ hearts deeply,” said Deputy Gauteng Provincial Commissioner, Maj Gen Khoi Maloka.

Maj Gen Maloka said this during a Project 20 event, which was held atUbuntu Hall in the Provincial Offices in Parktown, Johannesburg, which was held to share Christmas with the families of fallen police officers.

“Losing a family member has never been easy, but what causes more grief to the family members, widows, widowers and orphans here today, is that they had been robbed of their husbands, wives, fathers, mothers, sisters, brothers and breadwinners by ruthless criminals who had pounced on their loved ones while they were responding to the noble call to serve and protect the community,” said Maj Gen Maloka.

The deceased members were among the many police officers who had performed their duties under extremely dangerous circumstances to ensure the safety and security of the Gauteng community, but sadly the communities were robbed of these protectors when their lives were cut short by criminals.

The Gauteng Provincial Office celebrated with the families of the fallen heroes and heroines at the Project 20 celebration. This celebration was aimed at alleviating the burden of the families of the late SAPS members while waiting for the pension payout of the deceased.

With donations of groceries from Pick n Pay, the Johannesburg Market (which has been a partner for many years), and the Christ Embassy Church, the families will have a chance at a joyful Christmas.

At the ceremony that was attended by Maj Gen Maloka, Maj Gen Mzwandile Mzamane from Head Office, Messrs Glen Miller and Sifiso Mnisi of Pick n Pay, Mr Mpho Mmekwevho from the Johannesburg Market and Mr Harrison Ocholor of Christ Embassy Church, groceries were handed over to the identified families in need.

Maj Gen Maloka welcomed the contributions made to the families and expressed her sincere gratitude to those who had pledged to contribute to the SAPS’s Project 20.

Be the change that you want to see,” these words by Mahatma Gandhi come to mind when one sees what a difference the initiative of one person can make – in this case, turning a terrain overgrown with weeds and strewn with rubbish, into a welcoming haven for police members and the public.

“I could not face it any longer – I just felt I had to do something about the state of the grounds surrounding the Moot Police Station and the single’s quarters. It is bad enough that police members have to deal with ugliness every day, seeing people at their worst in environments that are not good for the soul. That is why I decided to try and give them something nice to look at,” said Susan Fondse, an active member of the Moot Community Police Forum (CPF) and the driving force behind Project Garden Renovation.

Samuel Sithebe, a labourer at the Moot Police Station, is Susan’s stalwart ally in this daunting task. They began by cleaning up the long-neglected terrain as best they could and planting a flowerbed at the entrances of the conference room and single’s quarters. “Although we initially planted only a couple of Lobelias and variegated Petunias, their bright colours immediately made an impact. When I asked for assistance at the next CPF meeting, I was amazed at people’s support.

We are very grateful to ALM Motors, Camelrock and Tuinhoekie for their sponsorships. The Moot community, especially the elderly, donated plants, saplings and some even lent a helping hand in planting them,” Susan said. Formerly a nurse who later specialised in pathological services at Onderstepoort, Susan is truly an inspiration. Although she has undergone spinal surgery and has suffered neurological damage as a result of long-term exposure to formaldehyde, she works shoulder to shoulder with Samuel. Susan is also closely involved in local crime prevention projects. She visits elderly residents and coordinates meetings every second Monday of the month. Residents have an opportunity to voice their concerns and warn peers about criminal trends. Because pensioners spend their days mostly at home, the information they provide plays an important role in identifying suspicious persons and criminal hotspots, for example illegal structures being erected and houses being leased to drug peddlers and prostitutes. This gives the police a chance to act before a situation becomes unmanageable.

Samuel Sithebe, who hails from Witlaagte in Mpumalanga, is an indispensable part of the team. With his friendly smile Samuel proudly showed us what they have accomplished so far: “It is healthy for the body and soul to work in a garden. I am very proud of what we have done here,” he said. Samuel and Susan expressed the hope that the police members living in the single’s quarters will respect their environment enough not to throw litter out of their windows any longer. Samuel’s commanding officer, Capt Solomon Mtileni, expressed his appreciation for all the effort that is going into improving the Moot Police Station’s grounds. What’s more, elderly residents living in the Moot recently surprised police members with home-made cake and savoury treats, that were served in the garden. In days gone by, police stations across South Africa annually competed for a trophy for the neatest police station. Sadly this seems to have become a thing of the past, with many police stations falling into disrepair. Initiatives such as a garden renovation may seem like a small thing, but its spillover effect is invaluable as it involves local residents and businesses and fosters good relationships between the police and the public.
The Provincial Commissioner of Gauteng, Lt Gen Lesetja Mothiba, has called for collective efforts against child abuse, neglect and exploitation, especially over the festive season. Lt Gen Mothiba says members of society, including children, must cooperate with law enforcement agencies in combating these atrocities.

“The protection of children must not be seen solely as a policing duty. We cannot dispense the parenting of children to the police. Parents must parent. The police will police,” said Mothiba at the launch of Gauteng’s Duty Calls Festive Season Operations Campaign at De Deur in Rosettenville, Johannesburg. “We cannot allow criminals to rob you of your earnings of the entire year, which you acquired through legitimate hard work and dedication. You deserve to enjoy your hard work free from crime. But the police can only achieve this with your support,” he said.

The provincial commissioner called on police officers to communicate and remain in touch with communities continually throughout the festive season. “It is the responsibility of communities to hold regular community policing forums to fight crime in their environment, but the police need to keep the victims of crime updated on progress, particularly if you have effected arrests. Failure to do so creates the impression in the public domain that the police are ineffective, when in fact, in most cases, many successes have been achieved.”

The festive season campaign is aimed at maintaining high police visibility throughout Gauteng, and clamping down on any criminal elements, such as drunken driving, children and women abuse, cash-in-transit heists, ATM bombings and armed robberies that often gain momentum over this period. The MEC for Community Safety in Gauteng, Sizakele Nkosinathi Malobane, said Gauteng, which is also the economic hub of the country, will continue to enforce the law 365 days of the year. The MEC explained that the campaign was not a mere crusade of empty words and paying lip service, but a government led and community orientated campaign. “We are therefore excited that today we are joined by the community of De Deur as we affirm our message that over this festive season, only law-abiding citizens will have a joyful season,” she said.

She further urged all the members of the SAPS to serve communities with diligence and commitment, not only over the festive season, but throughout the year. “We are aware that while most South Africans will be enjoying quality time with friends and relatives, these dedicated men and women in blue, will be carrying out their duties with vigour, determination and pride. We salute these heroes and heroines,” she said.

Recently, one of Poland’s most feared and an alleged gang leader was extradited from South Africa to Poland. The SAPS’s International Criminal Police Organisation (Interpol) component recently carried out the handover to their Polish counterparts at the OR Tambo International Airport.

Janusz Tadeusz Graf, aged 58, is alleged to be part of a crime syndicate in Warschau, the capital city of Poland, and is described by the Polish media as ‘influential’. He has been wanted by the law-enforcement agencies in Poland where he is due to face crimes he allegedly committed between 1999 and 2010. These charges include murder, drug dealing, kidnapping, extortions and bribery. Last year, he came to South Africa on holiday and has never left.

He was arrested in Somerset West in February for an expired visa. It then became apparent that he was wanted by Interpol. He has been in custody since June this year while processes leading to his extradition were being followed.

Interpol ensures and promotes mutual assistance between all criminal police authorities within the limits of laws existing in different countries and in the spirit of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The global policing organisation has the capacity to serve the policing world globally to ensure day-to-day international police cooperation. South Africa became a member of Interpol in 1993. This partnership has proven to be a fruitful one, which will see more gains in combating international crime.
LENOX AND BOWIE — the pride of the Uitenhage K9 Unit

Article and photograph(s) by WO Gerda Swart

Safety and security have become the new buzzwords in the Uitenhage Cluster in the Eastern Cape. With the help of the K9 Unit, more and more learners are being made aware of the concerns and dangers of crime. It has become very clear that security and protection dogs, trained for a variety of applications, play an ever-increasing role in curbing crime. Dogs are commonly referred to as "man's best friend" and this rings true when one sees the close relationships that the dedicated group of men and women and their four-legged partners of the Uitenhage K9 Unit have.

The members of the unit continuously conduct outreach programmes throughout the Uitenhage Cluster and even display their K9 partners’ skills at numerous community events and schools. Lenox and Bowie, also known as the "super dogs", display their skills by apprehending the "criminals" within minutes after committing crime in the presence of their owners. Other dogs display their sharp sense of smell by finding hidden drugs and money.

Other units in the SAPS also form part of these displays, such as the Bomb Disposal Unit. Maj Joel Mothile and Const Mzwetemba Maki demonstrate how they search for metal objects.

These outreach programmes play a crucial role in building strong relationships between the SAPS and communities. Improved relationships with communities will definitely contribute to effective crime combating.

A dog’s prayer

O Lord of Humans, make my master faithful to his fellow men as I am to him.
Grant that he may be devoted to his friends and family as I am to him.
May he be open-faced and receptive as I am.

Give him a face cheerful like unto my wagging tail.
Give him a spirit of gratitude like unto my licking tongue.
Fill him with patience like unto mine, that awaits his footsteps uncomplainingly for hours.
Fill him with watchfulness, my courage, and my readiness to sacrifice comfort or life.
Keep him always young at heart, and crowded with the spirit of play, even as I.

Make him as good a man as I am dog.
Make him worthy of me.

BE BOND WISE Part 1

Compiled by Capt Karien van der Merwe

Buying property could be one of the best long-term investments. As most police members have to take out a bond in order to be able to buy property, fluctuations in the economy and marketing campaigns by banks promising better rates could result in uncertainty about whether or not to switch banks.

Bond holders need to fully understand the implications of a move between two banks, because what may seem like a saving initially, may actually cost them more in the end. Certain penalties and cancellation costs may be applicable, as well as a fee to register the new bond at a different bank. Unfortunately, the additional costs are not always fully disclosed and properly explained to clients before they sign on the dotted line.

Banks offer different interest rates to different clients. For example, a bank will not consider granting you a lower interest rate if you have a bad debt record — another incentive to keep your debt record spotless. Remember that it is up to you to provide proof of income and additional security (life insurance policies or proof of ownership of property previously purchased) in order to negotiate the best possible rate with the bank. All South African banks have similar structures and policies regarding bonds, and although one may be tempted to move from one bank to another with the promise of a lower monthly repayment, you should do your homework very carefully before making this important decision. Do not be embarrassed to ask questions. Request printouts of bank repayment policies and ask an independent third party to explain the fine print to you if you are uncertain.

One golden rule is not to overextend yourself when buying property. Remember to factor in additional costs, such as municipal services, property tax, levies in the case of townhouses or apartments, possible renovations and interest hikes. First-time buyers who have become used to budgeting only for their monthly rent and municipal services, should be wary of this pitfall. Remember that a bond is a secured loan. This means that the asset, which is property in this case, serves as collateral or security for the bank who can repossess and sell it if you do not service your loan.

Unfortunately, once they have successfully negotiated a bond and have been told what the monthly repayment is, most homeowners never consider adjusting the amount. It becomes just another monthly expense. Ideally, homeowners should give ongoing attention to their bond and although they may have successfully negotiated a lower interest rate, they should still try to pay off the interest charged by the bank as soon as possible in order to start diminishing the actual capital loaned. It can and will make a huge difference in the total amount that they save in the long term.
Review and re-establishment of the CLUSTER APPROACH in the SAPS

By Lt Vincent Mukhathi
Photograph(s) by WO Theo van Wyk

Restructuring in the South African Police Service has been introduced and implemented continuously in the past few decades of the existence of the SAPS. It is also true that population increases, social development, technological and criminal developments are but a few of the external factors that have contributed to decisions in this regard. SAPS had to align its structures to enhance service delivery to society. Expectations of better policing through continuous social decline, unemployment and a history of violent protests did not ease the process of change. Three distinctive structural changes was important to review the cluster concept. The first change was the District offices which reported to Regional offices. The District offices were closed down approximately 16 years ago with the establishment of the Area Structure as a level on its own. A number of Area offices reported to a Provincial Office. Cluster Offices were developed in 2006 with the closure of Area Offices, as an extension of the Provincial Commissioner. It was placed geographically in the province to manage the performance of a group of police stations.

In 2012, 78% of the clusters were evaluated to determine the impact that they had on policing at local level. Although some advantages were identified, certain dysfunctions were prioritised and attended to in order to enhance the cluster concept. The National Commissioner through the Board of Commissioners instructed that the following matters need to be considered during the investigation of the enhancing of the cluster concept:

- Roles and responsibilities of the Cluster Commanders.
- Delegation of powers to the cluster.
- Placement of the Accounting Responsibilities within the cluster structure.
- Monitoring and evaluation of police stations within a cluster, and
- Uniform application of the cluster structure within Provinces.
- Aligning of cluster boundaries, as far as possible with municipal districts without compromising magisterial demarcation.

The optimizing of the Cluster Structures for future implementation was conducted by Organisational Development. In the process benchmarking was done with other State Departments, especially on district level, in particular the Department of Basic Education. The purpose was to enhance the standards that will form an integral part of the compilation of the future Cluster Structure. The investigation findings were presented to the Board of Commissioners and will be presented for final decision to the National Management Forum in the near future. The findings of the NMF will thereafter be discussed in the provinces. Implementation of the new cluster concept will be dealt with in a constructive way by means of a project plan. The new cluster concept will be communicated to all role-players once the above-mentioned principles have been considered.

Gerrit Frederick Meyer (17) Male Bethal
Last seen: 2016-11-21
The missing person left home and has not been seen since.
Bethal CAS 1/12/2016
Investigating Officer:
Cpt Van Tonder
Tel: 017 607 9800

Boitumelo Nkakol Machabane (17) Female Temba
Last seen: 2016-10-23
The missing person left home and has not been seen since.
Temba CAS 5/11/2014
Investigating Officer:
WO SM Siphanda
Tel: 012 717 9132

Prezem Nadziu (18) Male Mt l’Hovo
Last seen: 2016-11-20
The missing person left home and has not been seen since.
Mt l’Hovo CAS 1/12/2014
Investigating Officer:
Cpt VM Komana
Tel: 013 249 1111

Marcus Mahlaba (25) Male Temba
Last seen: 2016-10-25
The missing person left home and has not been seen since.
Temba CAS 6/11/2014
Investigating Officer:
WO SM Siphanda
Tel: 012 717 9132

Shoneed Leonhard (40) Male Bethlehem
Last seen: 2016-05-01
The missing person left home and has not been seen since.
Bethlehem CAS 5/11/2014
Investigating Officer:
WO P Sthembile
Tel: 041 404 3036

Ismail Hendricks (60-65) Male Mount Road
Last seen: November 2012
The missing person left home and has not been seen since.
Mount Road CAS 1/7/2013
Investigating Officer:
WO F Fortuin
Tel: 041 384 6530

Mypha Swaretbooa Nkai (72) Male Temba
Last seen: 2016-10-20
The missing person left home and has not been seen since.
Temba CAS 8/11/2014
Investigating Officer:
WO SM Siphanda
Tel: 012 717 9132

Lebogang Molokai (1) Female Moroka
Last seen: 2016-03-16
The missing person left home and has not been seen since.
Moroka CAS 10/10/2014
Investigating Officer:
WO MB Maleke
Tel: 011 527 3000

Please help us to locate them...
WANTED PERSONS

Wanted for Assault GBH
Frank Matsinye
Investigating Officer:
Lt MS Shabangu on 013 293 3023 or 072 859 0176

Wanted for Attempted Murder
Gilbert Jabu Moisi
Investigating Officer:
WO KK Mabasa on 011 486 5000 or 0721843897

Wanted for Fraud
Olga Khoza
Investigating Officer:
Capt FF Rangashwe on 012 336 0785 or 082 418 9060

Wanted for Driving under the Influence
Mncedisi Goodman Kondile
Investigating Officer:
Sgt L Crafford on 028 384 0201

Wanted for Dealing in Illegal Substances
James Itai Sibanda
Investigating Officer:
Capt I Polley on 011 977 5470 or 082 822 6332

Wanted for Murder
Cosmon Mpolaeng Makgoka
Investigating Officer:
WO MD Tshisikhawe on 015 397 4536 or 082 319 9652

Wanted for Theft
Abraham Mxolisi Nkabinde
Investigating Officer:
Const A Tema on 013 293 9000 or 072 100 3602

Wanted for Theft
Kgabo Francinah Matlou
Investigating Officer:
Const CM Mazibuko on 011 977 5613 or 0827780415

Wanted for Theft
Nhlengane William Khoza
Investigating Officer:
013 9473848 or 072 1491 400

Please help us arrest these alleged perpetrators...

SAPS CRIME STOP 08600 10 111