



CHARTWELL

COUNTRY ESTATES

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2022 NEWSLETTER

HELLO 2022

A big welcome back to all Chartwellians as we head into 2022 with our chins up, ready for what will hopefully be a positive year. Returning from our annual December migration to the coast, I have a fresh appreciation for the natural beauty, tranquillity, big skies and vast spaces that we are all blessed to enjoy whilst living in Chartwell. As I always say, Chartwell really is one of the hidden gems of the north.

With our vision of constantly trying to build a safer, more beautiful environment with improved lifestyle and property values, the CCE rounded 2021 off with the installation of the new CCTV thermal and overview camera's, new paved walkways, the rebuilding of the long decaying Cedar Road wall, another successful family fun run and many other initiatives that constantly happen in the background. For the CCE, 2022 is going to be a year of consolidating and building on all the positive initiatives already happening in and around our amazing area. At the risk of nagging, we urge all landowners, businesses and tenants to join hands with us in helping Chartwell reach its full potential in every aspect.

Please remember to love the ones you're with, be thankful for every day, enjoy the small things in life, know that opportunities are often hidden by challenges or obstacles and please don't use the CCE whatsapp groups to vent and spread conspiracy theories

We wish every Chartwellian everything of the best for the year ahead.

From the CCE



Thank you to Chartwell residents for the beautiful photos.

17 MARCH

COGS

Venue TBC
Contact Howie on
082 932 4778

25 MARCH

SWEEPSTAKES

Contact Maureen
on 083 228 1753
Time: 6pm for
6.30pm

CHARTWELL BLOCKWATCH – THE COMMUNITY’S “EYES AND EARS”

By Françoise Harrison

The current Chartwell Blockwatch was established some 6 years ago, as a neighbourhood response to increasing crime in the area. A number of residents' fences had been cut along the wetland, dogs and birds were poisoned and it appeared that criminals were targeting the area on almost a nightly basis. The community rallied, and the Chartwell Neighbourhood watch was formed as one of the Douglasdale Policing Neighbourhood Watch groups. The late John Warren, arranged for community sponsorship (thank you!) for magnetic decals for patrollers to display on their vehicles. All patrollers had to register, have fingerprints taken and to undergo police clearance. The Chartwell Blockwatch Whatsapp group was formed. The initial task of the blockwatch patrollers was to identify vulnerable properties and security risks in the area. Fences were repaired and erected, verges were trimmed, and residents were urged to assist in addressing the vulnerable points. Patrollers, all voluntary members, went out in teams of two, with community members from across the area being teamed together. Each evening saw two shifts of patrollers doing an early shift around 10pm and a later shift after midnight. Some stalwart patrollers even denying sleep and doing shift from 3 – 5 am! The initiative was utterly successful!

Sometime after this, the community SOS groups were formed, and blockwatch patrollers monitor these groups as well. The SOS Whatsapp groups have proved extremely helpful in summoning a speedy and cohesive community response in life threatening situations.

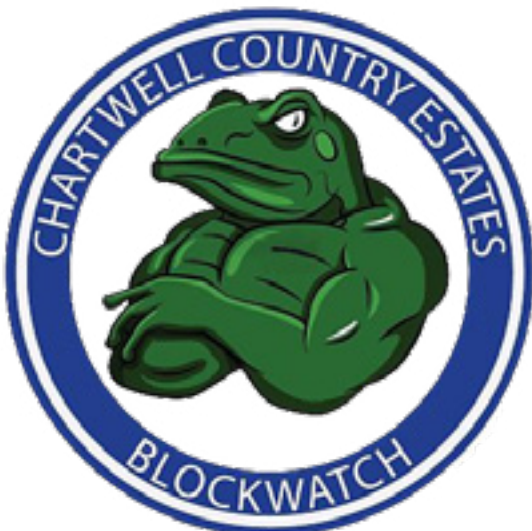
Residents certainly got to know each other in the early days of blockwatch as the rosters saw patrollers teamed with different people each month. Some patrollers arm themselves with flasks of coffee, and a chocolate-laden tuckbox. We held a number of lively social events and teambuilding braais! We determined that although we would work closely with SAPS, we no longer wished to fall under the auspices of the Douglasdale Police Neighbourhood Watch. We would simply organise ourselves, as a well-run local community initiative. We designed a new logo for the Chartwell Blockwatch, and our magnetic decal, sponsored by the Sweepstakes fund, now sports a giant bullfrog casting his eye over Chartwell!

It is interesting that this most successful voluntary initiative has no chief, - no one in charge! We collectively make decisions, although we do tend to look to the team which initially formed the blockwatch initiative, and we work closely with the

board members tasked with addressing security matters on the CCE board. The Covid-Pandemic certainly affected our blockwatch initiative! We were unable to patrol during the hard lockdown, and curfew's dictated the time period during which we could patrol. We also understandably, saw many of our patrollers stepping down as they did not wish to risk catching Covid while out on patrol. Our patrols were reduced to one a night, and at this point, our numbers are still low. Thankfully, CCE's preferred security company, ADT, and the various other security companies, including Savika and TRSS, together with CCE's camera surveillance are doing a good job. The blockwatch initiative is a most important link in our security network, and as Covid releases its grip on the world, we look forward to growing our numbers, and our shifts, once again. I think it's time for a blockwatch braai!

The community salutes all blockwatch patrollers as well as those who assist in other ways on the blockwatch group!

Should you wish to become a part of this worthy security initiative, please contact me, Françoise Harrison, one of the BW WhatsApp admins, on 082 886 7730. I will put you in touch with experienced patrollers who can show you the ropes!



CHARTWELL SECURITY TIPS!

1. People should **be vigilant and vocal** if they see any strange behavior in the area.
2. People should **be proactive and not reactive** in terms of making sure their personal security systems are all in good working order such as electric fences, beams and alarm systems.
3. People should make sure their **properties are well lit and maintained**. Unkept verges and properties give the perception of an easy target and provide criminals easy hiding spots and passages to move around Chartwell unnoticed.
4. People need to **participate in Chartwell Blockwatch** where possible as it works fantastically as a visual deterrent to would-be criminals, it also brings the community together around a common cause.

AUNTY MAUREEN TELLS

“UNITY” THE WONDER GARDENER AND HIS SCARECROW “FIXER”

By Maureen Dalglish

The veggie garden along the pavement on Runnymede Road was Unity's idea and he started it from scratch - clearing grass and laying out the beds. People passing by are encouraged to help themselves to lettuce, cabbage, spinach, and other seasonal veggies for their own supper and, of course, to leave behind enough for the next person.

Unity noticed one day that some of the leaves of his vegetables were being eaten by Hadedas and by Guinea Fowl, and that was when “Fixer” was born. “Fixer” can very often be seen holding the hosepipe and he moves around and watches over the veggie patch from all different positions.

Unity has “green fingers” and is passionate about his plants – he described how he tests his seeds (which he collects himself) and then plants them in only half of the soil; before covering them with compost (which he has made up himself of kitchen cuttings and chicken manure) before watering.

He has great plans to extend the garden in the future and to include some fruit trees as well.

What a wonderful initiative for the Chartwell community and how wonderful that so far people are taking what they need but at the same time respecting Unity's Garden.



THE CHARTWELL SWEEPSTAKE

February 2022

Although Karen had arrived from Durban only two hours before the Sweepstake gathering, she and her daughter miraculously managed to create the most wonderful selection of snacks while Julian cleared and swept away the debris and leaves after the 3pm storm – well done. By 6pm all was organised and ready!!

The Hat Draw

This was won by Gerald Sadlier who immediately began to entertain everyone in his usual raucous way when asked to tumble the Tumble Drum for the Draw.

Sweepstake Draw

Ticket No 041 was the winner, Lulu von Merveldt; and so began Gerald's search for her phone number together with umpteen expletives when she couldn't be reached – very entertaining indeed....



Lulu von Merveldt

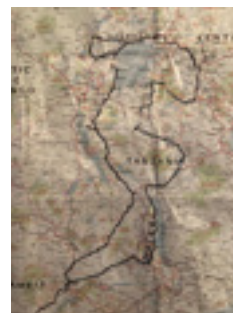
Lulu was born in England “too many years ago”. She married Alfie in 1975 and came to South Africa. Their plan was to return to England two years later, but after 46 years that never happened.

They bought their home in 1978 and watched Chartwell change considerably in that time.

Their children enjoyed fishing in the river and riding, and they've watched Chartwell change from grassland to a well-treed area that many would like to keep as charming as it used to be.

The Walkers' Trip to the Gorillas

Glasses were then filled and so were plates of food and eventually when everyone was seated, Julian - ably assisted by Karen - began to tell of their adventure.



Two months of preparation - vehicle, camping equipment, passports, Covid tests, money, etc. etc. the party travelling north was guided, but the five vehicles

following were each instructed on the use of GPS coordinates in case they should be separated.

Interesting, though, Karen was the only lady who shared the driving and who was brave enough to negotiate the sometimes nigh impossible terrain. The entire trip for them lasted two months (a little longer than was planned) as they were forced to remain behind in Jinja (Entebbe) on the return journey - Karen had tested positive for Covid. They admitted, however, that it was perhaps more fun to be on their own and fortunately stranded in such a beautiful place overlooking the River Nile.

To see the gorillas was of course the main focus of the trip, but they cleverly took us on their virtual journey which included river rafting, climbing, the different meals eaten, the kind people met along the way, the good accommodation, and the camping which, incidentally, didn't happen very often.

Although they travelled through Rwanda, they actually visited the gorillas from Uganda – all very well organised and controlled so as to be the least intrusive to the gorillas and the time allowed with the gorillas was only 1 hour. What an experience.



Baby Gorilla



Grown-up Gorilla



MONTESSORI ECO SCHOOL

CHARTWELL HOUSE

GDE REG 700401050

Where Life is Beautiful!

IN THE HEART OF CHARTWELL:
YOUR VERY OWN
MONTESSORI ECO SCHOOL

COME AND SEE
WHAT WE CAN DO
FOR YOUR CHILD!



*Walk in tours every Wednesday from 8am - 9am
78 Third Street, Chartwell*







Heather Kreusch
Director | Montessori Eco School

082 529 7005
011 875 2103



BUSINESS DIRECTORY

<p>Symbolic Ware (PTY) LTD Manufacturers of: metal & plastic name badges; cufflinks; tie slides; key rings; medals; school badges. Tel: 011 792 8777 Email: info@symware.co.za</p> 	<p>Maureen Dalglish Real Estate Professional Principal Agent (NQFS) Tel: 083 228 1753 Office: 011 708 328 3297 Email: dalglishm@mweb.co.za Website: Maureen Dalglish Real Estate</p> 
<p>The Castrol Classic Oil made specifically for elderly engines (1900- 1980). Tel: Giovanni on 082 786 3044 Email: sawholesale@outlook.com Website: Castrol Classic South Africa</p> 	<p>Forever Kennels Dog kennels for sale. Tel: 083 489 1369 Email: info@foreverkennels.co.za Website: Forever Kennels</p> 
<p>GIVING BABIES A VOICE Contact Françoise Harrison, Paediatric Occupational Therapist, and Lactation Consultant in training, for your own personalised pregnancy workshop, in which we'll discuss what your baby might tell us if he or she could! Cell: 082 886 7730 Email: françoise.harrison@gmail.com</p>	

CLASSIFIEDS

<p>Sirius Electronic Systems CC For all your bookkeeping needs: from the box of invoices to Trial Balance. Contact Jenni Brown on 071 403 3478 Email jenni@binary.co.za</p>	<p>Gardening Looking for a part time gardening job. Contact Leonard on 062 066 4552</p>
<p>Blue Leaf & Co. Graphic design company. Newsletters, flyers and any printing and stationery needs. Contact Hannah Warren on 071 199 7754 Email blueleafandco@gmail.com</p>	<p>Electric Fencing Installation and repairs. Compliance Certificates Sarel 084 487 7171</p>
<p>The Fitness League Gym Class Venue: the dance studio, Runnymede Road Day: Monday and Thursday Time: 8:30 am Contact Maureen on 083 228 1753 FUN FITNESS FRIENDSHIP</p>	<p>Chartwell Veggie Patch Contact Kingdom Mtombeni for PGS certified, fresh, organically-grown seasonal veggies. Kingdom 082 509 2974</p>

TO ADVERTISE
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blueleafandco@gmail.com