



BOTSWANA POLICE Magazine

News and Views

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Community Cluster
Awards

- ▶ Community Commitment
- ▶ Best Practice
- ▶ Best Station
- ▶ Minister's Award for Excellence in Community Commitment



Vision

To be a law enforcement agency of repute

The Service shall be employed in and throughout Botswana to protect life and property, prevent and detect crime, repress internal disturbances, maintain security and public tranquility, apprehend offenders, bring offenders to justice, duly enforce all written laws with which it is directly charged and generally maintain the peace (Botswana Police Act, Cap 21:01, section 6).

Mandate

For the performance of their duties under this Act, police officers may carry arms. The police also perform such military duties within Botswana as may be required under the authority of the President as Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces.

Mission

To provide a professional policing service in partnership with the community

Core Values:

Botho: Excellence:
Integrity: Team work:

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From The Editor's Desk

No More Hopping of Criminals From One Country to the Other

We are in an era where no one can hide from the long arm of the law anymore, thanks to globalisation. Of recent some notorious bunch of criminals consisting of both the locals and their international buddies thought they have found a lucrative platform in our country. They carried a series of armed robberies and thought they would get away with it but alas they surprised themselves. as they were arrested.



Superintendent Selinah Omphile
Head of Publications Section

It has come a time where law enforcement agencies have also globalised their strategies and efforts as a weapon to beat criminals at their own games. Criminals have for a long time enjoyed the benefits of globalisation as they formed syndicates that ‘terrorised’ the police and other law enforcement agents across the borders.

They found a gap within the various agencies either within the same country or across borders as they committed a series of offences in one country and then hopped to the next to continue with their notorious deeds, knowing pretty well that law enforcement agencies would have to grapple with the legalities of different states.

We are in an era where no one can hide from the long arm of the law anymore, thanks to globalisation. Of recent, some notorious bunch of criminals consisting of both the locals and their international buddies thought they have found a lucrative platform in our

country. They carried a series of armed robberies and thought they would get away with it but alas they surprised themselves as they were arrested.

Botswana is no longer that sleeping country where criminals would come in droves from across borders to commit crimes and go back to their countries or other countries to wait for the dust to settle down and then come back to hit again. We are up on our feet and be forewarned.

Organisations such as the International Criminal Police Organisation (INTERPOL) have united law enforcement agencies across borders making it very easy for all the countries to communicate and unionise in tracking criminals. It is through these platforms that criminal syndicates are broken; criminal plans intercepted and aborted.

The idea of INTERPOL was born in 1914 at the first International Criminal Police Congress, held in Monaco. Officially created in 1923 as the International

Criminal Police Commission, the Organization became known as INTERPOL in 1956. Some of the goals of INTERPOL include but are not limited to; serving as the worldwide information hub for law enforcement cooperation, delivering state of the art policing capabilities that support member countries to fight and prevent transnational crimes, consolidate resources and governance structures for enhanced operational performance.

We are hoping that those who have chosen crime as their profession will wake up to realise that this career is so short lived. We want to believe that everybody was born with a good heart and a certain level of intelligence but it is a pity how some people choose to use that intelligence to destroy their own goodness. Why would somebody choose to be an enemy of humanity in that fashion, we wonder?

Article by: Insp Obusitse Puleng
Pictures by: Sgt Kabelo Barogeng

Minister Kgathi Applauds Cluster Policing Committees



Recently, Selibe Phikwe Town was covered in blue and white as police vehicles were seen in every corner of the town. The town hall could be mistaken for a wedding of a prominent person.

It was painted maroon and gold which are the corporate colours of Botswana Police Service. This marked the celebrations of the community policing cluster awards.

The moment was much captured by its message "*7th Community Policing Cluster Awards*" which was inscribed on the walls. The event was a marvel to attend as smiles on the faces of everybody said a lot about it, let alone the man at the helm of Botswana Police Service - Mr Keabetswe Makgophe who could not hold back his happiness and said "Well done, you did a great job, I am so grateful."

Attendants came in droves, the young and the old, Dikgosi, crime prevention veterans and the admirers of this colourful event who did not want to be told but to see it live. This magnificent event, was held to recognise great achievement of the 'holy matrimony' between the police and the community.

The event was also to appreciate the dedication, selflessness and commitment displayed by the community through crime prevention committees in the fight against crime.

As it gained momentum, you could hear whistling and ululations from every table showing how happy and excited cluster members were when names of their clusters were called to the stage to receive their awards.



The Minister of Defence, Justice and Security, Honourable Shaw Kgathi (in red tie), the Commissioner of Police Mr Keabetswe Makgophe (centre) and other dignitaries observing the national anthem.

When giving his keynote address, the Minister of Defence, Justice and Security, Honourable Shaw Kgathi said he was happy with the positive impact that community cluster policing continue to make in bringing down crime levels.

He applauded the cluster members for their commitment and volunteerism, which he said, has led to the success of community policing and therefore deserves accolades.

"It has become evident that through the years that the criminal justice system alone can not curb crime and violence," he said.

He said that cluster awards are a way of recognising community contributions adding that there can never be a better sacrifice than protecting human life and property.

"As we celebrate the fruits of community partnerships, we should



Number 1 Police District Cluster Committee representatives amongst them the Divisional Commander North Senior Assistant Commissioner Dinah Marathe (far right) posing for a photo after being crowned the overall winner. In their midst was the Minister(holding certificate) and Commissioner (behind him).



His Worship the Deputy Mayor of Selibe Phikwe Town Council Mr Molefhi Pilane awarding the Community Commitment Award to Boseja North Cluster representative. Looking on is the Deputy Commissioner (Crime Investigations) Mr David Mosete.

also use the opportunity to align our strategies to the new Vision 2036, and ensure peace, freedom and progressive governance," Kgathi said.

The Minister added that the country continues to enjoy good performance ratings on global scale pertaining to public security and the rule of law, and said this is due to invaluable contributions of cluster policing.

He said the escalating levels of crime and violence are a serious threat to human life, democracy and economic development. Honourable Kgathi further called for a comprehensive approach by all stakeholders including the community to effectively fight crime.

"The government is also committed to supporting the public security sector, and is in the process of reviewing some legislations such as the Police Act, Penal Code, Criminal and Procedure and Evidence, Stock Theft and Arms and Ammunition to enhance police effectiveness," he said.

When welcoming guests, the Commissioner of Police, Mr Keabetswe Makgophe said the introduction of cluster policing has transformed community policing into a more manageable affair that promotes partnerships and proactive problem solving through the involvement of different stakeholders at local setups.

He said in the past, the police and the community were two different entities who could not be seen collaborating in any endeavour unless under investigations. He said the partnership that exists now, has brought about great achievement in the fight against crime.

"It is during events such as these that the police and members of the community come together to celebrate their joint success in crime prevention as well as to lobby for more community support in the fight against crime," added Makgophe.

Mr Makgophe acknowledged that since inception of Community Cluster

Policing in 2008, the number of clusters has increased to 652. He said this showed that more people are beginning to understand the importance of their involvement in policing themselves.

When giving a vote of thanks, Kgosi Gaolebale Mosweu of Ikageleng ward in Selibe Phikwe said he was thankful to Botswana Police Service for hosting the event in his area stating that this would help in uplifting the moral of the residents of Selibe Phikwe and surrounding areas.

He further said the closure of BCL Mine has adversely impacted the socio-economic status of the region stating that events like these would help in boosting the areas economy.

The awards are packaged into four categories being; Community Commitment, an award given to the clusters that have excelled in mobilising the community to address crime problems and showing high level of participation and commitment.

The Best Practice Award which is given to a cluster that has excelled in achieving the set targets through innovative strategies. Best Station Award goes to a Police Station with the best performing clusters and the Minister's Award For Excellence in Community Policing goes to a police district that excels in accomplishing the set targets, active participation by the partners and having exhibited the best strategies to reduce crime.

A total of 230 clusters were recognised as compared to 160 the previous year. The Best Station Award went to Maun, Serowe and Phitshane Molopo Police Stations respectively while the Minister's Award for Excellence in Community Policing went to Number 1 Police District in Francistown, which consists of five Police Stations being Kutlwano, Gerald, Tonota, Matsiloje and Dukwi who scooped 22 awards.



Assistant Commissioner Kgosietsile Bosilong



Senior Assistant Commissioner Oreeditse Mautle (l) and Mrs Mautle receiving a present from the Commissioner of Police Mr Keabetswe Makgophe (r).

Six Police Officers Surrender Handcuffs

Article and Pictures by
Cst Keamogetse T. Mmopi & Robin Seleka

Retiring from a law enforcement agency is no such an easy task as one has to embrace the change in lifestyle and waking up to find themselves a civilian.

As much as the family may celebrate the fact that finally they will have ample time to spend with their loved one, who has just retired from the demanding job that engaged him a lot of times, the retiree himself may be having a conflict of mind.

Of recent, six senior police officers comprising; Senior Assistant Commissioner Oreeditse Mautle, Assistant Commissioner Kgosietsile Bosilong, Senior Superintendent Oreneetse Mogapaesi, and Assistant Superintendents Bigboy Nkhwanana, Philane Mackson and Edwin Motshosi had to pack their bags and bid the Police family farewell on their way out.

The Commissioner of Police Mr Keabetswe Makgophe showered the officers with accolades for their contribution in the development of the Botswana Police Service and the country.

Mr Oreeditse Mautle who retired as Director of Anti - Stock Theft Branch, had started off his career in 1976 and started cutting his teeth in policing at Central Police Station in Gaborone as a Constable.

In 1978 he was transferred to Jwaneng under General Duties, later to join the Telecommunication and Transport Branch at the Radio Workshop. He also served at Kanye between 1983 and 1986 before he was transferred to Bobonong, Francistown and Gaborone West respectively where he served as a Station Commander.

From 1988 to 1993 he was appointed the Public Prosecutor in Selibe

Phikwe. Mr Mautle also served as the Officer Commanding Number 8 District (Letlhakane), Deputy Divisional Commander, Northern Division (Francistown) as well as Divisional Commander Northern and Southern (Lobatse) Divisions respectively.

Since his employment, the former Director of Anti - Stock Theft has progressed through the police ranks until he reached the rank of Senior Assistant Commissioner. He has given 40 years of his life to serving his country.

As for the retired Deputy Commander Special Support Group Assistant Commissioner Kgosietsile Bosilong, he joined the then Botswana Police Force in 1982. He spent his entire work life at SSG climbing through the ranks and retired after giving 35 years of service.

From 2007 to 2009, Mr Bosilong was amongst the officers who were seconded to the United Nations Peace



Keeping Mission in Dafur, Sudan and in 2015 he led a contingent of Police officers who were deployed to Lesotho during their national elections.

With regard to Senior Superintendent Oreneetse Mogapaesi, she worked as a Radio Operator for a period of 19 years before she served at different District Headquarters as Officer Commanding between 1999 and 2008.

She was then transferred to Southern Division Headquarters as Administration Officer until her retirement.

Assistant Superintendents (ASPs) Philane Mackson and Edwin Motshosi had both served in Botswana Police as Traffic officers. They joined the organisation in 1984 and 1993 respectively and have both contributed tremendously to the growth of the traffic branch.

When thanking Botswana Police for the time he was with the service, ASP Mackson said as a traffic cop he had gained a lot of experience which he imparted with his subordinates.

He said back in the day, they did not have advanced technology like today however he said that did not deter them from effectively doing their job as

they still arrested people for speeding and other traffic offences.

As for Mr Motshosi, he said he was proud to have contributed to the growth of the traffic Branch which he said made him grow as an individual and as a police officer.

Meanwhile, Detective Assistant Superintendent Bigboy Nkhwanana had served his whole service as a Criminal Investigating Officer since 1980 till 2017.

They have served their part and retired, but they will for ever be police officers at heart and remain endeared to policing.

As much as the family may celebrate the fact that finally they will have ample time to spend with their loved one, who has just retired from the demanding job that engaged him a lot of times, the retiree himself may be having a conflict of mind.



Senior Superintendent Oreneetse Mogapaesi bidding her colleagues goodbye at a dinner hosted at SSG recently.



Assistant Superintendent Edwin Motshosi



Detective Assistant Superintendent Bigboy Kudzani Nkhwanana



Assistant Superintendent Philani Mackson receiving a present from the Commissioner of Police Mr Keabetswe Makgophe



File picture

Women police officers posing for a photo at the end of a road traffic operation they carried out.

Article by:S/Cst Julia Kotlhao
Urban Police Station

Hats off to all the women who have vowed to serve the nation as Police Officers

They are the shield of the nation, the heroines who against all odds chose to serve the nation. Out of passion and determination, with the love they have for their nation they chose the risky and selfless job.

Day in and day out they sacrifice their lives for the national service. These are the women of substance, of great calibre and with thus they ought to be celebrated.

Being a police officer takes great courage, leadership skills and integrity and Botswana Police Service prides itself with hundreds of women who still see it fit to join the department. They took an oath to serve the nation and by far it is with no doubt that they are excelling.

Despite the hectic physical training meant to mould one into being a reputable police officer, the department still manages to enrol quite a number of women in the service, they take up all the duties required of them

with no questions asked, they take the commands as they come and execute them with great morale. Women, though traditionally created to bear children and care for the family, to take up all the necessary measures so as to ensure peace and harmony in the home, play the role of a mother and “father” sometimes. The women in BPS carry these attributes with them into the organisation.

They are the mothers of the nation and with the dignity they uphold their humanly characteristics that benefit both the department and the nation. These are the women who leave their families behind on a daily basis to serve the nation and despite the hectic day they had to work they retire back home to their families and carry out their motherly roles.

Sadly, on some hectic days their families have to spend nights without them and these women still suck it in and leave up to the oath they took. They deserve nothing but a pat on the back.

In addition to the entire work load they have, these women saw the need to form Women Networks in their stations with the mandate of dealing with issues that affect them as women officers.

Nothing compares to the gratitude and warmth of the atmosphere created by these women in their work place. Words alone are not enough to express the appreciation and just how honoured the organisation is to have these women.

These are the women who make BPS a proud organisation; they are the pillar, the vision of the law enforcement agency. It is not everyday that gratitude on how worthy they are to BPS is shown to them, hence I dedicate this article to each and every one of them.

Hats off to all the women who have vowed to serve the nation in this respect, you are indeed the shield of the nation. BPS is a law enforcement agency of repute because of you.



Ms Babusi Hill the Kgatleng District Agricultural Coordinator giving a keynote address.



Mr Michael Itumeleng Kgaleng Magistrate

with strategies that could help curb stock theft in their area.

Officially opening the Pitso, the Kgatleng District Agricultural Coordinator, Ms Babusi Hill implored farmers to look after their stock which they have laboured to accumulate.

She encouraged farmers to help police officers in combating the escalating cases of stock theft by ensuring that they take necessary precautions in safeguarding their stock.

"We all know how important livestock is to us as a nation. For instance for any event where we are gathered together we expect to be served meat," she said.

Ms Hill said to further show their reliance on livestock farming Batswana use stock proceeds for different purposes such as paying school fees for their children, buying food, paying drawy amongst others.

She appealed to farmers to resort to the previous lifestyle where people headed their livestock during the day and kraaled them at night as the practice

“

Itumeleng lamented the rate at which complainants withdraw stock theft cases at courts saying it was a concern and advised farmers to desist from the behavior as that did not help the situation but only allow criminals to elude justice.

He said that in 2016 a total of 52 cases were withdrawn by complainants before the courts. He advised farmers to refrain from settling cases out of courts stating that they still have the right to demand compensation from the perpetrators at the conclusion of the trial.

”

Kgatleng Farmers Team Up Against Stock Theft

Article and Pictures by:
Sgt Tshepo O. Raditonki

Farmers in the Kgatleng District thronged Masama Farms to attend a Stock Theft Pitso which was organised by Mochudi Police Officers in collaboration with the Kgatleng Farmers Association recently.

The purpose of the Pitso was to bring together all stakeholders to come up



Farmers discussing ways of handling stock theft



minimized chances of their stock being stolen.

She reminded them that it was very important for them to clearly brand their cattle, as that can deter thieves from stealing them. She also urged farmers and business communities to follow lawful procedures of buying and selling livestock to deny criminals opportunities of manipulating the system for their own benefit.

For his part, the Kgatleng Magistrate, Mr Michael Itumeleng who presides over stock theft cases in the area said the administration of justice has established stock theft courts in some parts of the country to deal with stock theft cases.

He said there are vehicles and caravans used as mobile courts which enable them to hold court sessions without having to wait for a long time in processing cases as it has been the case before.

Itumeleng said the high rate at which complainants withdraw stock theft cases at courts is a concern and advised farmers to desist from the behavior as that did not help the situation but gave criminals an opportunity to elude justice.

He said that in 2016 a total of 52 cases were withdrawn by complainants before the courts. He advised farmers to refrain from settling cases out of courts stating that they still have the right to demand compensation from the perpetrators at the conclusion of the trial.

It was further noted that Sikwane village in the District

w a s
t h e
hardest hit
by stock theft
as they have already
registered 20 cases
between January and March
this year.

At the end of the event, farmers resolved to frequently visit their livestock and keep proper records of information of their livestock. They agreed to form functional anti - stock theft syndicates so that they could work together and assist each other to look after their livestock.

Furthermore, the farmers resolved to kraal their livestock, earmark and properly brand their livestock for easy identification in cases where they get stolen or go astray.

So far, other Stock Theft Pitsos have been held at Rakops, Pitsane, Lentsweletau and Mosetse villages with the objectives of getting the society to stand up against stock theft.

This is to show appreciation,
value and

significance
t h a t
Botswana Police
Service as well as
government have towards
the prevention of stock theft.



Events through the lens

7th Community (Events through th



1. Minister of Defence, Justice and Security Honourable Shaw Kgathi receiving a present from Number 10 Police District Chairperson Mr Noah Makaba.
2. Kgosi Gaolebale Mosweu of Ikageleng ward, Selibe Phikwe receiving a gift from the Commissioner of Police Mr Keabetswe Makgopha.
3. Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Defence, Justice and Security Mr Ikwatshaeng Bagopi awarding the Best Practice Award to Thamaga West Cluster representative.
4. Phitshane Police representatives being awarded the Best Station Award and a trophy by the Commissioner of Police Mr Keabetswe Makgopha.
5. Number 1 Police District Crime Prevention Chairperson Kgosi Paul Motshwane of Gerald Estate receiving a token of appreciation from Deputy Commissioner (Operations), Mr Victor Paledi.
6. Inspector Barbara Moshabela and Sergeant Wilson Mmualefe of Crime Prevention Unit facilitating the Awards process.



/ Cluster awards the lens in picture

7. Some of the police officers in attendance at the cluster awards ceremony
8. Some of the guests who attended the Cluster Awards ceremony
9. Maun Police Station representatives receiving a trophy for Best Station Award from the Commissioner of Police.
10. The Chairperson of the neutral Panelists committee retired Senior Superintendent Phenyo Moalusi receiving a gift from the Deputy Commissioner Crime Investigations Mr David Mosetse.
11. His Worship, Deputy Mayor of Selibe Phikwe Town Council Honourable Molefhi Pilane awarding the Community Commitment award to a representative of Maokane, Mokhomma Lefhoko Cluster.
12. Police band giving a piece of music during the cluster awards ceremony.

Events through the lens



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Having A Chat With Crime Prevention Veteran - Gaealafshwe

For over three decades, I dedicated my life to the national call and I will never look back as I am a devoted and dedicated Crime Prevention activist. To me, crime prevention was and remains an obligation and an integral part of my life."

These are the words of inspiration by the 73 - year - old Molepolole crime prevention veteran, Mr Timothy Gaealafshwe.

He said he has seen it all, done it all and still persistently carries on and on in pursuit of safety and security of his nation in general and his community of Molepolole in particular.

Gaealafshwe said he is prepared to drop dead fighting crime despite the fact that age, which to him is just a number is beginning to test his character.

He said he joined the Crime Prevention Committee at the age of 40 during its foundational years and today at his age, he is still a regular at crime prevention workshops, seminars, awards and other national events.

The objective of crime prevention committees is to forge working partnerships between communities and the police to ensure safety and security of such communities.

The concept was birthed as a declaration process by the police to say that they cannot win the battle of crime alone, hence the need to close the gap that existed between them and the community.

The Police Magazine had a pep talk with him on the side lines during the Crime Prevention Cluster Awards in Selibe Phikwe recently.

To prove his mettle in crime prevention, he recalled that in 1991, he was amongst the 21 chairpersons of crime prevention committees, who went to Swaziland on a benchmarking exercise.

He said they shared ideas and experiences with their Swazi counterparts and put to practice what they learnt when they returned home.

He said through public education and sensitisation, as well as the transformation of the initiative which led to the formation of cluster policing, the public is now showing interest in the fight against crime.

He said they are beginning to witness the involvement of young people in satisfactory numbers, some of whom spearhead the initiative across the country.

He said as elders they bank in the youth to recruit more youth as this helps to keep them off the streets,



Crime Prevention activist Mr Timothy Gaealafshwe

He said he has seen it all, he has done it all and he persistently still carries on and on in pursuit of safety and security of his nation in general and his community of Molepolole in particular. Gaealafshwe said he is prepared to drop dead fighting crime despite the fact that age, which to him is just a number is beginning to test his character.

"When we started, people were reluctant to join crime prevention committees as they referred to them as police work," he said.

Mr Gaealafshwe said he was elected the chairperson of Kweneng District Crime Prevention Committee in the 90's and still holds the 'throne' up to today.

moreso that they are the ones involved in criminal activities.

"Since the establishment of Cluster policing, I can safely say members of the public are actively and voluntarily involved," said Mr Gaealafshwe.

He said cluster members from a particular area would divide themselves into smaller groups and undertake patrols, after which they meet and come up with a consolidated report of what they experienced. He said it is at these meetings that they share experiences and ideas on how best to deal with any problems encountered.

Veteran Gaealafshwe said cluster policing has also played a pivotal role in bringing people together as it revives the spirit of oneness, self reliance and looking out for one another as a community.

He was amongst other chairpersons who were honoured and ushered with some token of appreciation for their dedication and support of community policing in the country at the Cluster Awards held in Selibe Phikwe recently.

In a related development, the Executive Secretary of Number 1 Police District cluster committee Ms Supang Galebotswe also observed that in recent years there has been an improvement in the cordial relationship between the police and the community.

She said their win of the Minister's award, shows their concerted efforts and effective collaboration as the 15 different cluster committees.

"As different clusters we network and do patrols in one area and then go to the other in our next session. This helps us to closely work together and effectively manage our areas, said Galebotswe.

She said they do public education through workshops where they educate the public on the negative effects of being involved in crime. Ms Galebotswe said they use the same forums to encourage others to join clusters.

"We talk to them about the importance of cluster policing as it helps in preventing what could have caused harm before it happens, and that we should be pro - active in keeping our homes safe," said Galebotswe.

She added that they also visit other Police Districts to benchmark from them the ideas that they have put in place in fighting crime.

"Our proximity to the Ramokgwebana border has also helped us to establish a good working relationship with some Zimbabwean villages along the border as we regularly visit them and challenge them in sports tournaments. We use this opportunity to address youth in Zimbabwe about crimes such as entering the country through un gazetted points," she added.

Number 1 District in Francistown scooped 22 awards consisting of 11 community commitment awards, 10 Best Practice awards and the Minister's Award for Excellence in community policing.



The Executive Secretary of Number 1 Police District cluster committee Ms Supang Galebotswe



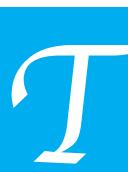
The chairman of Kweneng Crime Prevention Committee receiving a token of appreciation from the Deputy Commissioner Operations Mr Victor Paledi during the Cluster awards ceremony held in Selibe Phikwe recently.

"As different clusters we network and do patrols in one area and then go to the other in our next session. This helps us to closely work together and effectively manage our areas, said Galebotswe.

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Introduction of a mortality audit system to improve road traffic fatalities in the Botswana

Article by: Dr Kaone Panzirah-Mabaka &
Dr Moses Thato Patlakwe
of Botswana Police Forensic Pathology Unit



The Botswana government is concerned that Road Traffic crashes are a major public health problem amenable to prevention. Records from Botswana Police Forensic Pathology Unit indicate that over 400 Batswana are killed on our roads every year, most of them between the ages of 15-44 years which according to world report represents a cost of about 1% of the GDP.

The new traffic amendment reduced the blood alcohol (BAC) limit from 80mg/100ml to 50mg/100 ml for standard drivers and 25mg/100 ml for public transport drivers. The breathalyzer alcohol limit reduced from 0.35mg/1000ml to 0.22mg/1000ml for standard drivers and to 0.11mg/1000ml for public drivers. In addition to the above, random breathalyzing, of drivers was introduced as well as issuing new

Critical reviews (retrospective) of the various data sources on child and adult morbidity and mortality in Botswana are limited. According to 2011 Central Statistics Office report, the differentials in mortality between districts are usually associated with differing levels of social and economic development between the districts. A lot of factors, (avoidable and unavoidable) contribute to high mortality and morbidity in Botswana.

Botswana as a country must come up with sustained interventions in reducing morbidity and mortality related to road traffic accidents. A study by the Associated Colleges of the Midwest; University of Botswana, Lake Forest College, reported that 32.70% of Botswana reported driving after drinking alcohol.

Studies in low-income countries have shown alcohol to be present in between 33% and 69% of fatally injured drivers.



Some of the vehicles that were involved in accidents in different areas.

Investigations have revealed that many of the crashes are caused by excessive speed, drinking and driving, disregard of road traffic signs, inexperienced drivers, rapid increase in the number of vehicles and non-wearing of seatbelts.

Substance abuse largely alcohol has particularly detrimental effects in influencing the risk of a road crash as well as the severity of the injuries from the crashes. Government's initiatives to reduce alcohol related traffic fatalities are shown by the increase in alcohol levy from 30% in 2008 to the current 55% implemented in 2015. Other initiatives include the "Don't drink and drive" campaigns and the new 2013 Road Traffic Amendment Act.

regulations and strengthening traffic law enforcement. Road traffic accident mortality rates remain high and out of proportion to these efforts.

From a public health standpoint, If road traffic accidents are a problem, one should wonder if it is because of rampant alcohol use, or that the vehicles used in the country are old and not road worthy, or is it imported vehicles or that its because of many inexperienced drivers, or if drivers are not tested appropriately, or is it conditions of the roads, weather influences or even carelessness of the drivers. These factors need to be scientifically established.

The extent to which alcohol contributes to road traffic crashes varies between countries and direct comparisons are difficult to make. In a study done in Australia for the years 1990-1999 the prevalence of drugs increased over the decade, particularly cannabis and opioids, while alcohol decreased.

Associations between driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs, speeding and not wearing a seatbelt are the main reasons for a fatal outcome. The effect of alcohol in the body are well documented and includes compromised rational thinking, decreased motor and sensory function, whilst also leading to increased risk taking behavior,

aggression and self-destructive tendencies. Impairment by alcohol is an important factor influencing both the risk of a road crash as well as the severity of the injuries that result from crashes. The frequency of drinking and driving varies between countries but it is almost universally a major risk factor for road traffic crashes.

Like any other disease, accidents too are caused by interaction between agent, host, and environment. Human factors include age, sex, education, medical conditions, fatigue, influence of alcohol and other drugs, lack of bodily protection (like helmets, seat belts) and psychosocial factors like lack of experience, impulsiveness, aggressiveness, defective judgment and delay in decision making.

Few researches have been done in Botswana to enhance our understanding of high mortality due to Road Traffic Accidents especially to look at alcohol

In pursuance of The Botswana Police Service Corporate Annual Policing Plan of 2016/17 objective to 'Improve Road Safety', the Forensic Science and Traffic Branch of the Botswana Police through the Commissioner's office has embarked on a project to test and quantify alcohol levels in all drivers, pedestrians and passengers in all medico-legal autopsies conducted by Botswana Police Service.

The aim of this project is to determine the causal link between alcohol consumption, drug abuse, and other factors (demographic, social context, vehicle safety context, accident scene, driver experience, time and place of accident, weather associated conditions, road conditions, type/mode of vehicle and risk taking behavior) and road traffic fatalities in Botswana.

Our hypothesis is that there is direct link between alcohol, drug abuse, other modifiable factors and road

hoped that a formal mortality review process will be established as a standard of operation in the Botswana Police Service. It is also hoped that a formal mortality review process to assess the quality of interventions in our pledge to reduce RTA will be implemented. We hope that at the end of this research recommendations for strategic interventions based on these findings aimed at reducing RTA mortality at each level can be developed.

In order to reduce the number of people killed in traffic accidents, it will be important to promote joint research uniting forensic medicine, clinical medicine and road engineering, take measures to limit the impact of inebriated pedestrian and ensure proper screening of alcohol and illegal drug consumption in drivers.

The potential benefit to the society is a more accurate knowledge by the government to improve road safety.



Pictures: File material

and drug related accidents. Botswana has mounted a sustained response against the HIV/AIDS pandemic with tangible results. For high and sustained economic growth, the composition of government spending in Botswana needs to be slanted much more towards investing in saving people's lives and property by reducing road related morbidity and mortality.

According to the Inquest Act of 1954, all unnatural deaths in Botswana including road traffic crashes should undergo medico-legal autopsy. However, there has not been any research or study to determine alcohol intake and levels, or relation of traffic crashes to substance abuse and other modifiable factors.

traffic accidents. While this has been demonstrated in other countries, the burden of this problem in Botswana is unknown even though interventions should be country specific and not extrapolated from other countries.

The main question of the project is to ascertain if we are winning or losing the fight to reduce road traffic fatalities and if there is any research evidence to suggest increase or decrease in fatalities due to the direct causal link between alcohol or drug abuse with road traffic accident.

This project is a five (5) year prospective case series (audit) of all deaths in Botswana. Through this process it is

There should be significant benefit to society in understanding why alcohol and road traffic accidents in Botswana have remained significantly high despite commendable investments to mitigate the presumed factors, i.e. Alcohol levy and road traffic amendments.

This should result in redirecting resources to address the identified preventable/modifiable factors like alcohol, use of illicit drugs and other modifiable factors and hopefully reduce road traffic accident mortality/deaths.



Superintendent Jayson Chabota
Research and Information Section
Botswana Police Public Relations Unit

Let's Talk

Step Out Of Your Comfort Zone

“As an aspiring human being always strive for the top not the tail, struggle to be at the pinnacle not the bottom, be a leader not a follower. Ask yourself, who am I? Where am I going? What is my life style? What do I want to do? Answers of these questions will determine your future only if you set relevant goals. In doing so, also consider your internal and external comfort zones. Look at the environment which you currently live in and your immediate neighborhood. Recreate or reproduce the kind of environment suited to your ambitions and stretch your potential. Involve your children in setting goals that could help achieve such ambitions.**”**

I would like to address the issue of environmental comfort zones because it is essential in your material goal setting life style. In developing your self efficacy, you need to be aware of your environmental comfort zones because it is then that you can be able to stretch your potential beyond your comfort zones.

Most of the time we are limited by our comfort zones to progress. Comfort zone is a situation where one feels safe or at ease and he who stays within comfort zone never improves.

As an aspiring human being always strive for the top not the tail, struggle to be at the pinnacle not the bottom, be a leader not a follower. Ask yourself, who am I? Where am I going? What is my life style? What do I want to do? Answers of these questions will determine your future only if you set relevant goals.

In doing so, also consider your internal and external comfort zones. Look at the environment which you currently live in and your immediate neighborhood. Recreate or reproduce the kind of

environment suited to your ambitions and stretch your potential. Involve your children in setting goals that could help achieve such ambitions.

Failure to involve children will result in them assimilating what pertains in the environment and fail to think beyond. As a result you may be forced to make a conscious decision to move to a different neighborhood to be able to stretch you and your children's potential beyond comfort zones.

If you are aware of your comfort zone and have set goals that help stretch your potential beyond comfort zones, the environment you live in does not matter because you create dreams past your comfort zones.

As a child I always dreamt of becoming a good cattle herder because many children in my neighborhood were cattle herders. That was my comfort zone and I had no problem with it. At nineteen, I was still herding cattle and goats, mastering, among others, how to milk them, slaughter them, earmark or brand them. I really looked up to cattle rearing as a livelihood and

thought it was a good business to hang on to. That was the kind of business I knew, more so that it did not require a college qualification. While it was okay, some how it limited my scope of ambitions because it could not allow me to dream past cattle or goats rearing and herding.

I remember when I had gone to register to start my primary school when the principal turned me away for being over the cut - off age. I saw myself jumping in excitement hoping to go back to cattle herding lifestyle that I enjoyed and I was later disappointed by the principal's change of mind.

So it is important that you always look at the environment and neighborhood you hang in socially, economically, spiritually and set goals that will help you move out of your comfort zone. Stretch your potential. But if you think you can do things beyond your comfort zone in the same environment and neighborhood, so be it. But if you think you are trapped in that environment, jump out. Stretch your comfort zone. Do it deliberately and intentionally.

Africa's Plus Side

By: Fungayi Farayi

I really feel bad when I hear the cliché, "it can only happen in Africa" especially if it is used to deride the child of the soil, its people, culture, behavior etc. We, being what some other people called the Third World back then, but as sure as you were born into this world, there are a number of positives that can be gleaned and benchmarked from this continent.

It is also absurd to note that there are some people outside our borders who still think that our continent is a country. Batho ba teng ba ntlhomola pelo ka ba kaila fela mo lefifing. USA does not stand for United States of Africa but rather United States of America (lefatshe la ko makgoeng le batho ba ba ntsho).

I am quite alive to the fact that this continent bore and raised visionary leaders who had the dream of bringing it under one banner.

Although there are still some pundits who are comfortable in referring to us as Third World, the phrase that I am not hearing much about of late (I think it has been overtaken by events) we are not a country but a continent.

There is talk about Global Village and this automatically relegates the third world perception to the dustbin of history. The global village conjures in my mind a place of equal opportunities, rights and advantages.

It implies that we are geographically and structurally the same and only divided by streets and avenues. This reasoning

may also be flawed because one might argue that life presents disparities even in village setups thus implying that there may be suburbs and slums even in the 21st century village concept. It is therefore a foregone conclusion that other streets are covered with bitumen whilst others are dusty.

Talk of Third World. There are other names and phrases that club us together such as Non Aligned countries, Frontline States (during the liberation struggle of some countries), Africa south of the Sahara, Commonwealth, Francophone etc. Each of these clubs have Mama Africa in their membership and of late we have the BRICS which also accommodates the Black Continent. We are surely part of the global village.

Having written what I have written and expressed my honest opinion, let me discuss what I am about to discuss at the risk of being labeled a hypocrite. Some of our behaviours as we interact with the environment can justify the saying, "it can only be found or happen in Africa."

How do we honestly defend a situation where one places a banner about a music festival at the grave yard. Being us, we pass the home or as we would put it, "legae la ba ba didimetseng hurriedly especially after dusk. We are afraid to disturb the dead and besides we suppose that they might wake up just to torment us.

Fa Setswana sere mmapatsi phokwana o tsamaya a ntshitse, go tewa mmapatsi a supegetsa baji bareki eseng baswi. Ka matlho e le dialana, a sa je saga

ope, mmapatsi o letelela bareki go kanoka se ba se batlang. But the dead know nothing. Their hate and love disappears when they breath their last.

When we place an advert ko mabitleng, we cement the notion that it can only happen/be found in Africa. I have also observed that in some instances you have dozens and dozens of billboards at road intersections and junctions.

They are as many as dimausu that are commonly cluttered in the same streets selling similar commodities. I suggest that we should avoid distracting motorists at all costs and as we do we will save lives.

The Botswana Government had pledged to fence masimo through a programme called Cluster Fencing. People find it difficult to work as a united strong front. Nnyaa! Bagaetsho a re chencheng nako di a re sia. Let us not arm people with facts to prove that we cherish working in silos because we are Africans.

Those who fend for themselves through selling of nzamele or by vending, would normally line-up the street in the Third World resulting in the blockage of the walkways and pathways. It can only happen in Africa. Please allow me to sign off before I earn a wrath from my detractors.

Amen ! God bless you and all the readers.



INTERPOL

Media Release

Huge Drugs Haul Underscores Transnational Organised Crime Threat

The seizure of more than 55 tonnes of drugs in an international operation across Latin America and West Africa underlines the ‘massive scale’ of activities of transnational organized crime groups, INTERPOL Secretary General Jürgen Stock said.

Operation Lionfish III involved 5,000 law enforcement officials in 13 countries, with 357 arrests and the bulk of seizures resulting from intelligence-led operations by police in participating countries. “This operation highlights the massive scale of activities of organised crime groups in Latin America and West Africa channeling drugs into Europe,” said Secretary General Stock.

“As law enforcement faces increasing demands on its resources, it is a significant reminder of the wide range of threats facing communities worldwide, not only from terrorism, but also by transnational organized crime networks.

“The commitment of participating countries to working in a coordinated fashion via INTERPOL’s global network to disrupt drug trafficking routes and crime groups underpinned the success of this operation,” added Mr Stock.

Seizures in the operation included 52 tonnes of cocaine, cannabis and heroin, with the cocaine haul of 25 tonnes alone estimated to be worth approximately USD 950 million.

The operation further highlighted how precursor chemicals are being diverted from legitimate to illicit purposes, with 20 clandestine laboratories dismantled and three tonnes of precursor chemicals seized. “The Brazilian Federal Police was pleased to play a key role in Operation Lionfish by hosting its operational coordination unit.

INTERPOL’s policing capabilities and global network helped enhance the capacity of participating countries to cooperate and seize large quantities of drugs as well as arrest high level targets,” said Rogerio Galloro, Executive Director of the Brazilian Federal Police.

The operation was co-organised by INTERPOL’s General Secretariat headquarters in Lyon, with support from the INTERPOL Regional Bureaus in Buenos Aires and Abidjan. INTERPOL’s Criminal Networks unit facilitated information exchange and cross-checking against INTERPOL’s global databases in real time.

“Operation Lionfish III shows the intrinsic role of INTERPOL Regional Bureaus in supporting member countries combat organized crime and drug trafficking affecting entire regions,” said Kedji Abbe, Head of the INTERPOL Regional Bureau in Abidjan.

The operation was held under the framework of INTERPOL’s CRIMJUST project, managed jointly with the

UNODC and Transparency International and funded by the European Union.

It aimed to strengthen criminal investigations and cooperation along cocaine routes in Latin America, the Caribbean and West Africa by fostering interregional law enforcement coordination and information sharing.

Drawing on the resources of INTERPOL’s Project Fortaleza which supports Latin American countries fight organised crime syndicates, the operation involved Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Nigeria, Panama and Peru.

The operation further highlighted how precursor chemicals are being diverted from legitimate to illicit purposes, with 20 clandestine laboratories dismantled and three tonnes of precursor chemicals seized. “The Brazilian Federal Police was pleased to play a key role in Operation Lionfish by hosting its operational coordination unit.

Source:www.interpol.int
Source:United Nations Security Awareness

Man Charged For Selling Fake Rolex Watches

A Port St. Lucie man is facing a felony charge after deputies say he sold counterfeit Rolex watches worth thousands of dollars.

On April 27, a St. Lucie County Sheriff's Deputy responded to an advertisement that Jason Sylvester Challenger, 45, posted on social media for counterfeit Rolex watches.

The ad stated, "Why pay more when you can pay less n look the same" with photos of Rolex watches. The ad also featured his phone number and offered "free delivery if you live near me."

The deputy called Challenger at the phone number listed in the ad and asked about the fake Rolex watches he had for sale.

According to the arrest report, when Challenger asked the deputy what he wanted, he told him two watches, a "his and her" counterfeit Rolex watch.

The St. Lucie County Sheriff's Office said Challenger asked what the deputy's budget was and asked where he was located. The deputy made contact with an expert in counterfeit goods who is also a representative for Rolex and other major trademark branded products, who said he would come and assist in the investigation.

According to the arrest report, on April 28, the deputy contacted Challenger again and asked for the watches. Challenger said he had to go to his store in West Palm Beach and get them and that he would have them available for purchase the next day.

Still on the same report, the expert on counterfeit items also called Challenger and asked to purchase a Rolex. SLCSO says Challenger offered to send him pictures of Rolex watches and to pick one out. Challenger told the man that prices per unit were a cheaper price if multiple Rolex watches were purchased, SLCSO says.

The deputy and the unnamed counterfeit expert met with Challenger at the St. Lucie West Walmart location, where Challenger showed them three counterfeit Rolex watches, according to SLCSO.

The deputy says when he asked Challenger about the other watches, Challenger said he does not travel with all of his watches.

During the meeting, Challenger became suspicious and asked if the men were from the FBI, SLCSO says. The deputy says after that comment Challenger began to say all the watches he sells are from his personal collection.

The deputy says he agreed to purchase one counterfeit Rolex watch for \$350. According to the arrest report, Challenger had two other counterfeit watches that he wanted \$600 for one with diamonds and \$350 for the other.

The men asked about a different model Rolex watch and Challenger said they could follow him to his house for it, according to SLCSO.

The deputy then gave the take down signal and Challenger was taken into custody.

Deputies say the watch purchased from Challenger was a 18k Day Date counterfeit Rolex and that Challenger was in possession of an additional 18k Day Date counterfeit Rolex, as well as a Diamond Dial and bezel counterfeit Rolex. According to the arrest report, once Challenger was read Miranda and signed a Mirand waiver, he agreed and consented for deputies to go with him to his residence and recover more counterfeit watches he had.

Challenger signed a consent to search form and deputies recovered the following items from his residence:

- 1 SS Sea Dweller counterfeit Rolex
- 1 Two Tone Daytona counterfeit Rolex
- 1 Gold Day Date counterfeit Rolex
- 1 Gold 18k counterfeit Rolex
- 1 Platinum Day Date counterfeit Rolex
- 1 Ladies 18k Presidential counterfeit Rolex
- 1 Hed Submarine counterfeit Rolex
- and 4 presidential counterfeit Rolex boxes

Deputies said the total value of the counterfeit goods is \$233,300.

Challenger is charged with selling counterfeit goods in excess of \$20,000.

EMOTIONAL FIRST AID

Rape and its aftermath can be a nightmare. You must remember that you are not alone. It will be very hard for you, but please try. You owe it to yourself. You deserve help, because rape is horrible and no one has any right to do it to you. Please do the following for yourself.

- The rape is not your fault
- You are not going crazy and this is a very serious crisis, therefore take good care of yourself
- People's reactions may hurt you.... They don't understand, and you must not listen to things that make you feel bad
- You are a victim of crime
- You are a good woman
- You deserve all the type of help you can get... ask for it
- You are not alone unless you cut yourself off
- You will survive
- You have every right to cry, scream and be as upset as you feel
- If you are really afraid that you are going crazy and can't handle yourself, go get professional care, no matter what anyone says
- There are people there who can help you
- You are a valuable person
- Do whatever makes you feel better
- This is the worst thing that has ever happened to you
- You are in no way responsible for the rape
- Hang on. Take five minutes at a time if you have to. Don't let yourself feel overwhelmed
- Try to let out/get angry at your rapist. Stand in the middle of the room and yell anything you feel like to him as if he were there.

CRY OUT LOUDER

You will get help

source: United Nations Security Awareness

Orbituary

Revelation 21:3-4

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”



S/Inspector Peddy Mpalaewali

Died: 31.01.2017

Last Station: Moshupa



Constable Ribson Botsoma

Died: 02.02.2017

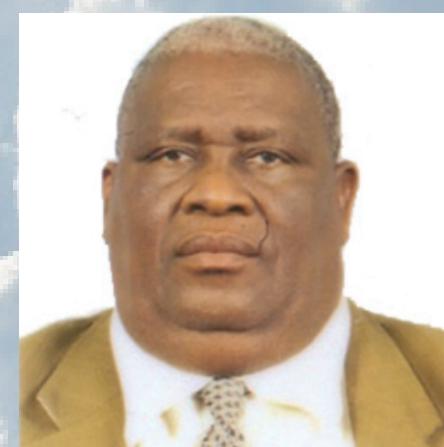
Last Station: Mahalapye



Constable Kabo B. Teko

Died: 21.02.17

Last Station: SSKA



D/Insp Sidney K. Maswe

Died: 01.03.17

Last Station: Lobatse



S/Insp Moledi Legakabe

Died: 03.05.17

Last Station: Selibe Phikwe



Sergeant Baathudi Sinombe

Died: 24.06.17

Last Station: Masunga



Constable Christopher Sitabule

Died: 30.06.17

Last Station: Special Support Group



Constable Kgomotso Makhombi

Died: 30.06.17

Last Station: Special Support Group

May their souls rest in peace





BOTSWANA POLICE HEADQUARTERS