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MID Newsletter – December 2020



Dear MID Members,

Well, we've made it to the end of 2020, 'the year of plenty'...of trials and tribulations.

It's been an incredibly tough year for all, but if there is a silver lining for this year, from a MID perspective we can at least celebrate that:

- **Our 24/7 high definition cameras went live**, ensuring the entire MID area is now covered by high-definition surveillance cameras that are monitored and responded to in real-time and which have resulted in crime prevention and arrests.
- We are one step closer to seeing the launch of a **rehabilitation programme for Muizenberg's homeless**.
- MID assisted **local feeding schemes** to feed vulnerable people during the pandemic.
- We are making headway in **greening Muizenberg**, as well as working with businesses to promote Muizenberg as a tourist destination and communicating better with you, our members.

businesses have opened and added value to the area.

- The 2020 board was voted in again for 2020, and are joined by **3 new Board members** who will undoubtedly add value.



Dimples Dumpling House, Muizenberg's newest restaurant.

On the downside, we head into the festive season with the 'Second Wave' upon us.

Covid-19 cases in the Western Cape have surpassed levels of the First Wave's peak, and the South Peninsula is an identified hotspot.

Myself and the rest of the Board implore all residents, visitors and businesses to please **Give the Best Gift you can this Festive Season:**

Please strictly adhere to Covid-19 safety protocols.

By doing so, you could:

- Save a Life
- Save a Job
- Save a Business



Father Christmas – AKA actor David Muller – visits Palmer Road

From myself and the Board, we wish you all a Safe, Sanitised and Sane Festive Season!

Peter Corbett

MID Chair

The 2020 AGM

The MID AGM this year was (thankfully) quite uneventful. About 25 members attended in person and another 7 tuned in via Zoom. With proxies, we fortunately had enough for a quorum and the AGM went ahead without any glitches.

A few questions were asked about the new camera system and our plans for a facility for homeless persons in Muizenberg. The Board has the latter down as a priority for this year but, unfortunately, it is not entirely in our own hands.

The only other thing worthy of note from the AGM was the election of Directors. This year there were eight enthusiastic volunteers and so the decision was made to elect them all. The following are their names and portfolios.

Peter Corbett

Chair

Joanne Hichens

Vice Chair & Street Cleaning

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Dale Simpson	Social Development	
Toby Megaw	Public Safety	
Mike Romyn	Beachfront Projects	
Charles Goodwin	Finance and Governance	
Clair Timlin	Gardens and Beachfront Maintenance	

The last three directors are new to the 2021 Board and we welcome their expertise and participation.

As an introduction to the new Board members, please meet:

Clair Timlin

"As a huge fan of and resident of Muizenberg, I look forward to being a Director on the MID board with the 'greening' portfolio as my title. I'll contribute as best I can to the consistent care and attention that our environment and beachfront deserves, as well as sharing in the decisions made for the betterment of our community."



Charles Goodwin

Charles is currently the Deputy Principal: Corporate Services at False Bay TVET College. The College is a key stakeholder and has had a longstanding reputable history in the Muizenberg

"I have extensive experience in corporate governance, due to my membership and hands-on participation in the FBC Committees of Council, and I have a wide range of analytical skills, which I hope to bring to the MID Board."

Due to his vast experience in universal management and corporate governance, Charles has been elected to the portfolio of Governance and Finance on the MID Board.

**Mike Romyn**

Mike Romyn is the owner of RevenueRed Africa, a long-time Muizenberg-based business. This is his fourth stint on the MID board, having been a director once and the MID Chair twice. In addition to his institutional knowledge, Mike brings his business acumen and passion for growing Muizenberg's beachfront business to the Board.

"I am thrilled to part of the MID again especially working with the current board. I am passionate about the beachfront and business community and hope to implement many improvements and get businesses more aligned. Muizies is the most diverse, chilled and fun place to be. Let's keep it that way!"



Public Safety: We Need YOUR Help!

MID's CCTV cameras have been doing a fine job, leading to several arrests and stopping many crimes from taking place thanks to the alert actions of the GRIT team monitoring the 44 cameras 24/7.

Good as the cameras and the control room operators are, we still need YOUR help!

YOU Can Help By Being Extra 'Eyes and Ears' On the Ground

1. Most importantly, the time between incidents taking place and reporting is currently too long. MID has cameras that can pan and trace suspects throughout the MID area, therefore it's crucial the community alerts GRIT immediately if an incident – or even a suspected incident – takes place. This allows the camera operators to track suspects in real-time and dispatch ground patrollers immediately.

If anything happens, or you see any suspicious behaviour, PLEASE report immediately to GRIT.

Call: 021-7888453

WhatsApp: 0608506260

2. Look outside now and again to see if there are any persons around who seem out of place or suspicious and report to the numbers above.

3. When you drive or walk around the MID area be observant for any suspicious persons or activity and report to the numbers above.

4. Remove temptation by always keeping doors and windows secure and never leave items in view within your vehicle.

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contact them about anything that happens in a public area within the MID boundaries 24/7 and they must respond.



Please save GRIT's numbers on your phone for quick reporting:

Tel: 021-7888453

WhatsApp: 0608506260

Communications: We're Getting More User-Friendly

The MID website is in the process of getting a revamp in order to make it more accessible and user-friendly. We expect the new-look site to be up by the end of January 2021. #WatchThisSpace



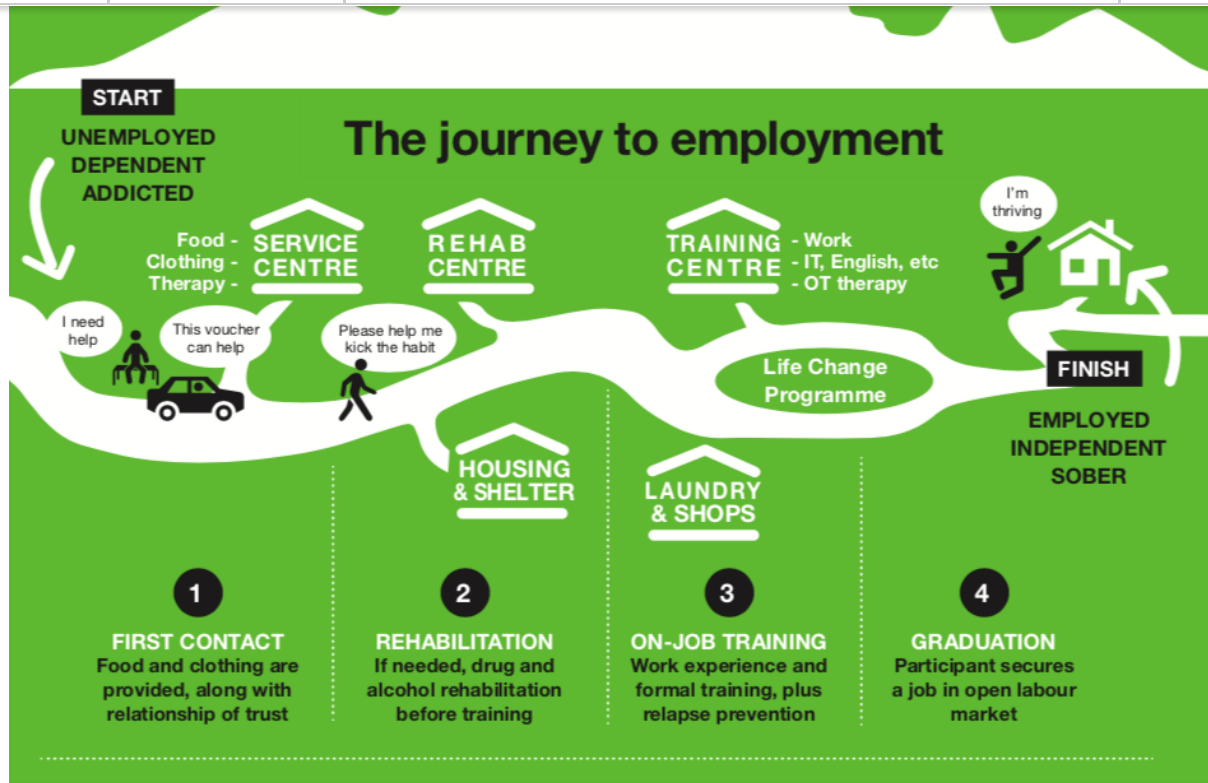
MID is also in the process of creating WhatsApp groups specifically for businesses in the area. Aside from encouraging better communications with businesses on issues of safety, cleaning and greening, the aim of the MID Business WhatsApp Group is to ignite collaboration whereby local businesses can support one another and make 'Muizenberg The Place To Be'.

If you would like to be added to the group, please message the MID Ops Manager on 082 4631 525 or email ops@mid.org.za

Social Development: Watch This Space

At the AGM, we received several questions regarding the status quo of MID's social development programme and the budget available for this.

As per every newsletter since March 2020 – in addition to widespread publicity around this issue – we would like to reiterate that MID has ring-fenced funding to support a rehabilitation and/or place of safety for homeless people in Muizenberg.



Our efforts to activate these plans have been frustrated many times over the past year, due to reasons ranging from red-tape to landlords being unwilling to rent properties for this project.

To be clear: the MID has neither the funding nor the necessary human resources and experience to establish and run a project like this on our own. What we have is a limited amount of funds to invest in a partnership, either with the City of Cape Town and/or a reputable NGO, who are capable of running such a programme.

We are in the final stages of talks with a reputable NGO who are willing to run a rehabilitation programme for homeless people in Muizenberg, and the aim thereafter is to assist in establishing a Place of Safety, particularly for women and children.

However, until a contract is signed we cannot, unfortunately, release further details, save to say that we are confident that by the end of January 2021 we will be able to present MID members with a holistic social development plan partly funded by MID and run by an established and credible NGO.

Cleaning: Help Us Keep Muizenberg Clean

As we are coming in to the season and expect our beaches to be crowded, we have a cleaning schedule in place to ensure the beach and streets stay as litter free as possible. Again, we ask that visitors and residents 'take rubbish home', rather than leave it in the bins in Muizenberg.

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CAN volunteers cleaning the streets and beachfront cleaning

We again ask residents not to dump rubbish next to any bins but to make sure it is all placed in the bins. If there is overflow, residents need to make a plan with Council or MID. Let's all work together to foster a new attitude to cleaning and pick up whatever litter we see. We can't leave it all to a few employees.

Feedback: Speak to Us!

We value all MID members' feedback. If you have any complaints or requests, please email either admin@mid.org.za or ops@mid.org.za.

Our Board meetings take place usually at 3pm on the last Tuesday each month, so if there is something you would like to talk to us about please let us know in advance and a time can be reserved.

Urgent issues may be dealt with by phoning/messaging the MID Operations Manager, Michael Lategan on 082 4631 525.

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Once again, we wish you all a Safe, Sanitised and Socially-Distanced Festive Season!

Ends.



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