



UPPER UMHLANGA SECURITY TRUST

(Funded by MEMBERS)

Dear Members

«Residents_Name» «Street_Name»

Member Number : «Member_Status»

27 January 2017

On behalf of all the UUST Trustees, committee members and service providers we would like to wish the Upper Umhlanga Community a **Happy New Year**. May this year be your year to shine in whatever endeavours you pursue. In a blink of an eye we are already one month down to what is going to be a fabulous 2017! The UUST plans to make 2017 a fun-filled year and encourages community involvement and support. Please keep an eye on our calendar of events which you will be able to access via our website. As a community let's scatter joy and happiness wherever we go and make the place we call home a better place for all. As valued members of our Upper Umhlanga Community your input is always appreciated and so we urge you to contact us with any suggestions.

UPDATE ON THE UUST TEAM

Last week, we sent out a Newflash noting new e-mail addresses for the UUST Security, as well as for the newly appointed "Cleaning and Greening" and "Marketing and Communications" consultants. Please note that the appointment of these consultants is to **support** all aspects of the security offered by the UUST and we **must also stress** that :

- at no time has the primary focus of the UUST deviated from SECURITY
- the UUST is committed to ensuring ongoing SECURITY in this Upper Umhlanga area.

ASPECTS OF SECURITY

When one addresses the word "security" in South Africa, the concept of a security **response** team generally comes to mind, but the UUST's focus over the past three years has been to **prevent** crime and create an environment that is safe and secure. Security of this nature involves a great deal more than removing/discouraging criminal elements and suspicious people from the neighbourhood and includes :

- Ensuring good communication with members
- Encouraging communication between neighbours
- Ensuring a clean and tidy environment, where criminals can find no refuge and which residents can safely enjoy
- Improving public spaces and forging a relationship with the Municipality (to try and reduce issues which impact on general security in a neighbourhood, e.g. speed, noise, poor signage and poorly maintained public spaces)

- Promoting relationships with Security Response Companies and the SAPS

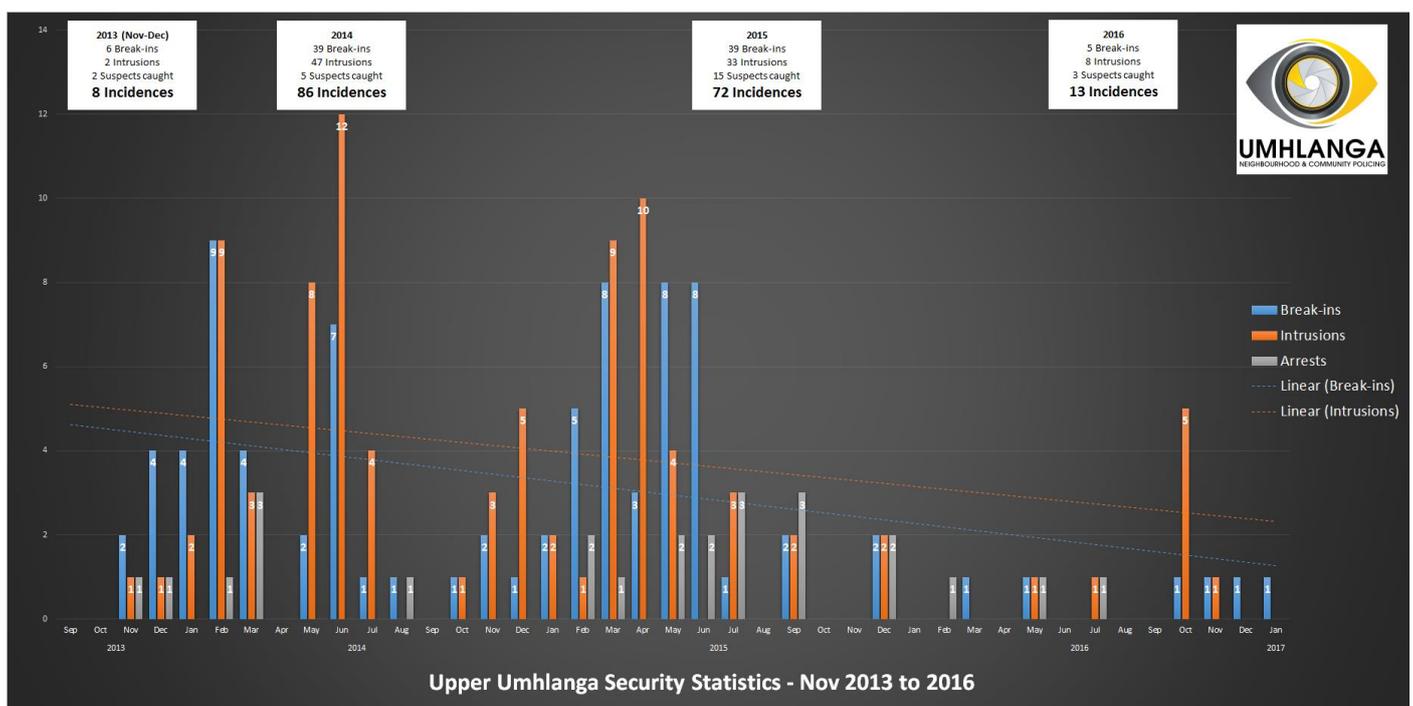
BACKGROUND

Thanks to the vision, passion and commitment of a few local residents to reducing the escalating crime in the area, the Upper Umhlanga Security initiative began over three years ago. It was identified that the reason previous security initiatives had failed to keep going was that they were totally reliant on voluntary support and thus Kevin Webster, together with a couple of support operatives, was employed fulltime. Clearly, the success of the UUST since 2013 speaks for itself (as indicated in the stats presented below) and the input of the UUST has also encouraged the community spirit to grow in many positive ways. Thanks to the tireless work of some volunteers, this initiative was also registered last year as a non-profit Trust, which now allows for members to claim against tax for their contributions. However, this has unfortunately been insufficient to encourage many new members and, with limited finances, the UUST last year had to consider options in terms of marketing as well as how to ensure the long term sustainability of this valuable organisation, (particularly considering that it is still largely reliant on several volunteers, whose continued future input cannot be guaranteed).

Thus, the concept of growing the team into a self-supporting and sustainable organisation was proposed at the AGM in June 2016 and in pursuit of this vision, the UUST has now appointed a part-time Cleaning and Greening consultant as well as a Marketing and Communication consultant to support and promote those communication and environmental aspects critical to security, so that Kevin and his security team can focus more on the essential crime related aspects thereof.

CRIME STATS AS OF THE END OF DECEMBER 2016

Look at the amazing changes in the UUST statistics over a 3 year period! The rate of incidences since the inception of the UUST reflects an astounding decrease in crime from **86 incidences** in 2014 to **13 incidences** in 2016. **A very big “WELL DONE” to our UUST team!**



MEET THE TEAM



Kevin Webster and his team; Vusumuzi Mdlalose and Lucky Mkhize – Security



Bernard Chatikobo – Cleaning and Greening



Carly Jenner – Marketing Communications



[Bernard Chatikobo, Carly Jenner and Kevin Webster](#)

We welcome the new additions to our UUST team and again thank all our members for their ongoing support.

The UUST does not endorse any services or goods advertised through this medium but offers the option to promote one's business to local residents. Should you wish to advertise via our newsletter please contact us.

[Click here to contact the team](#)

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