



BOTSWANA

# POLICE

MAGAZINE | VOL. 32 | ISSUE NO. 1 | 2026

ISSN 2077 - 2564

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 06 52<sup>nd</sup> BOTSWANA POLICE SENIOR OFFICERS ANNUAL CONFERENCE | 09 COMMISSIONER ENGAGES DIKGOSI | 18 THE FIRST EVER BPS FEMALE SCUBA DIVER



# MANDATE

The mandate of BPS is to ensure the safety and security of the peoples of Botswana. The organisation is established by an Act of Parliament under Section 6 of the Police Act, Cap. 21:01. The Act outlines the mandate of the BPS as follows,

**“The Service shall be employed 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.”**



## VISION

### **‘A law enforcement Agency of Repute’**

The BPS will be an upright organisation that upholds its mandate according to the dictates of the Country’s Statutes and all international policing conventions.

## MISSION

The BPS exists for residents of Botswana and to provide to them a service that is consistent with International Policing Standards. The Mission understands that a Total Policing Service must be offered with the consent of the Customer and with the Customer.

### **‘To provide a Professional Policing Service, in partnership with the Community’**

- **Professional Policing:** Expert Service that is consistent with international policing standards.
- **Partnership with the community:** Policing by consent, for them by them.



## VALUES

### **BOTHO**

Courteous  
Responsive  
Respectful

### **EXCELLENCE**

Accountable  
Knowledgeable  
Responsive  
Accurate  
Customer Focused

### **INTEGRITY**

Ethical  
Transparent  
Confidential  
Honest  
Impartial

### **TEAMWORK**

Espirit De Corps  
Pull together  
Collective Responsibility

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

06

52<sup>nd</sup> Senior Officers Conference

9

Commissioner Engages Dikgosi

12

BPS Donates 85<sup>th</sup> House in Lejwana  
Village

18

The First ever BPS female Scuba  
Diver



# Commentary

Superintendent Selebatso Mooketsi

## Closing a Historic Chapter: The Rise of Special Constables into the Police Service

The passing out parade of Intake No.1 of 2025 at the Botswana Police College, Otse marked a historic milestone in the annals of the Botswana Police Service (BPS). In a ceremony graced by the President of the Republic of Botswana and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, Advocate Duma Gideon Boko, 873 recruits proudly graduated, 845 of whom were former Special Constables. This was not just another graduation - it was the culmination of a journey that began over two decades ago.

Introduced in 2004, the Special Constables cadre was designed as a temporary measure to bolster policing efforts across the country. These men and women, employed on a contractual basis, served tirelessly in communities, often under challenging conditions, to ensure safety and security. Their contribution to fighting crime was immense and their presence became a reassuring symbol of law enforcement in cities, towns and villages alike.

Now, with Intake No. 1 of 2025, the Government has begun the process of transitioning this cadre into regular police officers, in line with the national plan to conclude the Special Constables cadre programme. The President reminded the graduates that the badge they now wear is not merely a symbol of authority, but a solemn responsibility to serve the nation with honour, integrity and unwavering dedication.

The BPS mandate remains clear: to maintain law and order, prevent and detect crime, protect life and property, and uphold the rule of law amongst others. In absorbing the Special Constables into its ranks, the Police Service strengthens its capacity to deliver on this mandate, ensuring that communities continue to enjoy peace and security.

This transition also closes a significant chapter in the history of the Botswana Police Service. The programme, which ran for more than 20 years, will officially end with the training of the final batch in the 2026/2027 fiscal year. Yet, the legacy of the Special Constables will endure. Their contributions will not be forgotten; they will be remembered as a vital force that stood firm against crime and safeguarded communities during a critical period in our nation's policing history.

The passing out parade was particularly symbolic, as it was the first cohort of police officers to graduate under the leadership of the newly inaugurated President in November 2024. It was a moment of pride, not only for the recruits but for the entire Police Service, as it reaffirmed the enduring bond between the Service and the nation it protects.

As we look forward, the absorption of Special Constables into the BPS is more than a policy decision - it is a testament to their resilience, commitment and the value they have brought to policing in Botswana. Their journey from temporary constables to full-fledged police officers is a story of dedication rewarded and it will forever be etched in the proud history of this august organisation.

*Congratulations to the first cohort and Welcome the final cohort, as we close the historic chapter.*

### EDITOR - IN - CHIEF

Assistant Commissioner of Police  
Near Bagali

### MANAGING EDITOR

Senior Superintendent  
Selinah Omphile

### EDITOR

Superintendent  
Selebatso Mooketsi

### SUB EDITORS

Assistant Superintendent  
Dimbo Peter  
Insp Edwin O. Ramotho

### DESIGN & LAYOUT

Constable Morgan Mmreki

### PUBLISHED BY:

Botswana Police Service  
Public Relations Unit  
Private Bag 0012,  
Gaborone, Botswana

Tel: (267) 399 3814-22

Fax: (267) 397 2404

Email: [police@gov.bw](mailto:police@gov.bw)

Facebook: Botswana Police Service

## EMERGENCY NUMBERS

**POLICE: 999**  
**GBV TOLL FREE: 0800 600 144**  
**FIRE: 998**  
**AMBULANCE: 997**

## POLICE TOLLFREE NUMBERS

Broadhurst	0800 600 084	Jwaneng	0800 600 142	Mochudi	0800 600 094	Selibe Phikwe	0800 600 063
CID HQ	0800 600 125	Kasane	0800 600 048	Mogoditshane	0800 600 107	Serowe	0800 600 073
Emergency	999	Lethakane	0800 600 055	Molepolole	0800 600 131	Tsabong	0800 600 121
Francistown	0800 600 027	Lobatse	0800 600 108	Nata	0800 600 057	Woodhall	0800 600 108
Gaborone West	0800 600 107	Mahalapye	0800 600 075	Palapye	0800 600 074		
Gantsi	0800 600 115	Masunga	0800 600 030	Ramotswa	0800 600 102		
GBV	0800 600 144	Maun	0800 600 040	Sejelo	0800 600 138		



**Let the  
Voice of the  
Customer  
Lead Us**



# INSIDE THE DORMS: HOW BOTSWANA POLICE LEADERS TURNED CONSTRAINTS INTO A CONFERENCE OF PURPOSE

Story by **Insp Macdonald Kengaletswe**  
 Photos by **S/Insp Kabelo Barogeng**  
**Cst Gofaone Kobe**

**W**hen the 52nd Botswana Police Service (BPS) Senior Officers Annual Conference opened at Botswana Police College in Otse, the setting told a story long before the speeches began.

This year's conference almost never happened. Amid a slowing national economy and tightening public finances, the Botswana Police Service was forced to scale back spending across its operations.

For a moment, one of the organisation's most important strategic gatherings, the Senior Officers Annual Conference, seemed destined for the chopping block.

But policing does not pause for difficult economic seasons. Instead of cancelling the forum that shapes the direction of policing in Botswana, the BPS adapted.

Senior Officers swapped hotel rooms for college dormitories. The Botswana Police College became both boardroom

and barracks, hosting Commanders from across the country for three days of reflection, planning and recalibration. And the decision did not go unnoticed.

Officially opening the conference, The President of the Republic of Botswana, Advocate Duma Gideon Boko praised the officers' humility and commitment. "As high-ranking officers, you could easily have demanded to be housed in hotels befitting your stature," he told delegates. "But you chose to be housed in college dormitories."

The President said such sacrifice reflected the spirit of service required in difficult times. He acknowledged that police officers continue to deliver results despite limited resources and assured the BPS that Government remains committed to strengthening policing capacity as the economy stabilises.

**Advocate Duma Gideon Boko**  
**President of the Republic of Botswana**

"You are doing a difficult job during a difficult time," he said, noting that economic hardship often brings new pressures for law enforcement as crime levels tend to rise.

Yet beyond the immediate challenges, President Boko delivered a clear message about the future of policing: innovation must



**Honourable Moeti Caesar Mohwasa  
Minister for State President,  
Defence and Security**

lead the way. “Our success as the police and the nation as a whole is dependent on the level, scope and pace of innovation,” he said. He urged officers to rethink traditional policing approaches by embracing emerging technologies such as drones and advanced surveillance systems, tools that could significantly enhance crime prevention and response.

President Boko also raised concern about the continued rise of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), warning that many such crimes occur in private spaces beyond the constant reach of law enforcement. “Police cannot be expected to police private spaces alone,” he said, calling on communities and families to become active partners in protecting vulnerable members of society.

He further cautioned citizens about the growing misuse of social media platforms, where insults, defamation and harmful content threaten social cohesion and responsible digital behaviour.

Earlier, the Commissioner of Police, Commissioner Dinah Marathe welcomed the President and gave a candid overview of the current policing landscape. Operating within limited resources, she said, has not weakened the BPS’ commitment to protecting the public. “Even the prevailing economic challenges will not undermine our resolve to provide continuous service to the communities we serve,” she assured.

Despite the pressures, the Commissioner reported encouraging trends in crime statistics. While total reported crime rose by six percent in 2025 compared to 2024, violent and serious crimes declined by six percent. Road fatalities also dropped by 5.2 percent.

Still, she warned that some crimes are becoming increasingly brutal, particularly those linked to gender-based violence and drug abuse.

Under the conference theme “Policing with Purpose; Inspiring Confidence Through Resilience and Innovation,” Commissioner Marathe outlined several reforms already underway. These include the adoption of SMART policing strategies, intelligence-led operations, digital transformation of police services and the continued expansion of the Safer City project.



**Commissioner Dinah Marathe  
Commissioner of Police**

She also spoke candidly about the human cost of policing. Officers, she noted, routinely confront traumatic scenes, from fatal road accidents to violent crimes, making policing one of the most emotionally demanding professions in the country. While acknowledging Government support, she expressed hope that officers’ conditions of service would be reviewed once economic conditions improve.

Beyond the speeches and statistics, the conference itself became a powerful symbol. Senior commanders gathered not in luxury, but in dormitories, a reminder that leadership in policing is not defined by comfort, but by commitment.

For three days in Otse, Botswana’s police leadership reflected, debated and planned, charting a path forward for a Service determined to remain resilient, innovative and trusted by the public it serves.



# POLICE COMMISSIONER MEETS BDF COMMANDER

Story by **SSP Selinah Omphile**  
Photos by **Insp Edwin Ramotho**

The unity between Botswana Police Service (BPS) and Botswana Defence Force (BDF) acknowledged as a powerhouse that continues to bear fruits.

The Commissioner of Police, Commissioner Dinah Marathe made the recognition when welcoming the Commander of BDF, General Mpho Churchill Mophuting during a courtesy call at Police Headquarters recently.

The meeting marked the first formal engagement between the two leaders since General Mophuting's appointment in November 2025.

Commissioner Marathe congratulated the General on his promotion, noting that his familiarity with national security operations would ease cooperation between the two institutions. She also encouraged him to share insights gained from his previous assignment as Botswana's Ambassador to the United States of America to strengthen local law enforcement.

The Commissioner credited the reduction of crime including cases of Armed Robbery to the excellent partnership that existed between the two agencies. She said joint operations with the BDF have enhanced crime-fighting strategies such as police visibility, stop-question-



Commissioner Dinah Marathe  
**Commissioner of Police**

and-search operations and overall law enforcement effectiveness. Commissioner Marathe further called for joint preparedness in the event of a Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak, warning that it could strain limited resources if not managed collectively.

*“Joint operations with the BDF have enhanced crime-fighting strategies such as police visibility, stop-question-and-search operations and overall law enforcement effectiveness.” Commissioner Dinah Marathe*



General Mpho Churchill Mophuting  
**Commander, Botswana Defence Force**

In response, General Mophuting pledged to continue nourishing the long-standing collaboration between the BDF and BPS, describing it as a legacy inherited from his predecessors. He proposed expanding cooperation into areas such as training and stressed the importance of continuous engagement at all levels.

Deputy Commissioner, Operations, Katholo Mosimanegape and some members of the senior management team, accompanied the Commissioner whilst Commander BDF had Secretary of the General Staff, Brigadier Mothokhumo Mokgadi and other senior officers.

# Commissioner Engages Dikgosi From Sefhare and Palapye



**Commissioner Dinah Marathe  
Commissioner of Police**

Story by **Cst Justin Gaogakwe**  
Photos by **Insp Edwin Ramotho**

**A**s part of the national fight against crime, the best way to tackle the scourge is by using the effective problem solving method that involves systematic approach. That is to say defining the problem, analysing its root cause, brainstorming solutions, selecting the best option, creating an action plan and implementing the solution.

The problem has been identified, and the root cause has been analysed the next step was to brainstorm new ways and solutions to address the problem. The Commissioner of Police had a sit-down with Palapye and Sefhare Dikgosi who are closer to the people. Dikgosi as custodians of tribal customs and culture have the responsibility of working with law enforcers to maintain law and order in their respective areas.

The Commissioner of Police, Commissioner Dinah Marathe, met with Dikgosi of Palapye, Sefhare and surrounding villages recently. The engagements, held at the respective villages, aimed at strengthening partnerships and refining community policing strategies. The meetings provided a platform for open dialogue between the police and Dikgosi to introspect on prevailing crime trends and collaboratively develop innovative approaches to promote national security.

Commissioner Marathe commended the Dikgosi for their active and pivotal role in community policing as well as promoting safer environments within their jurisdictions. She emphasised that sustained dialogue with them as traditional leaders and other stakeholders remains critical in the collective efforts to fight crime. Commissioner Marathe urged Dikgosi to continue fostering strong collaborations and to create inclusive platforms that engage the youth and vulnerable groups.

She highlighted the need for the development and implementation of targeted youth programmes designed to steer young people away from criminal activities and other social ills. Addressing crime trends, the Commissioner expressed concern over the rise in drug and substance abuse amongst the youth. She further noted that road traffic accidents and suicide incidents continue to claim the lives of young people, posing a serious threat to the country's future generation. Cyber-related offences and Gender Based Violence (GBV) were also identified as priority areas requiring concerted interventions.

For her part, Senior Chief Representative Kgosi Martha Lebang of Palapye reaffirmed their commitment as Dikgosi in maintaining a close working relationship with the Botswana Police Service and to continue supporting its crime



**Kgosi Martha Lebang  
Senior Chief Representative, Palapye**



**Kgosi Molefhi Tebogo  
Senior Chief Representative, Sefhare**

prevention and community safety initiatives. She said Palapye village is a growing immensely and they are experiencing sophisticated pattern of criminal activities in her area.

Kgosi Molefhi Tebogo of Sefhare on the other hand appreciated the engagement, citing that the platforms nurtures ideas, dialogues that would help curb crime and other social ills. He said his area is affected mostly by stock theft, GBV cases and the excessive use of illicit drugs among the youth.



**Kgosi Prince Obuseng  
Chief Representative, Lecheng**



Attendants

# Intake No.1 of 2025 Pass out

Story by **Cst Olorato Gadibolae**  
Photos by **Cst Tshepang Boemo,**  
**Cst Gofaone Kobe and**  
**Cst Morgan Mmereki**

**N**estled beneath the historic Lentswe la Baratani hill, the distinctive landmark overlooking Botswana Police College in Otse, 873 Botswana Police Service recruits stood in disciplined formation on the square ground recently as they awaited the arrival of Advocate Duma Gideon Boko, President of the Republic of Botswana, who officiated at the pass-out parade. The setting, framed by the hill and the morning sun, provided a fitting backdrop for a ceremony marking a significant milestone for the Service.

The recruits, their heads clean-shaven and uniforms immaculately pressed, remained motionless as instructors conducted final checks. For many months, they had undergone intensive training at the college, largely separated from their families, as discipline, endurance and professional conduct were instilled in preparation for police service.

The intake was largely composed of former Special Constables, a category introduced in 2004, many of whom had served the country for years under temporary arrangements. Their graduation marked a long-awaited transition into full police service, in line with government's plan to phase out the special constable programme.

In the stands overlooking the square, parents and relatives waited attentively, scanning



**Advocate Duma Gideon Boko**  
**President of the Republic of Botswana**

the ranks for familiar faces now almost indistinguishable in uniform. Mobile phones were held ready as families prepared to witness the conclusion of a demanding training period and the beginning of permanent service within the Botswana Police Service.

In his address, President Advocate Duma Gideon Boko commended the graduands for successfully completing demanding pre-service training and said their transition into full police service marked a critical moment for both the officers and the Botswana Police Service (BPS).

He noted that the enlistment of 873 recruits, of whom 845 were former Special Constables, signaled the conclusion of a programme that had served as a temporary measure for more than two decades. He said their absorption, was not simply about boosting numbers, but about building a more stable and professional police service aligned with national aspirations. "Their elevation to the status of full-time police officers is not a mere manpower expansion effort," President Boko said, adding that it reflected Government's vision of a Botswana anchored on peace, security and stability.



The President urged the new officers to fully appreciate the authority now vested in them, cautioning that the police badge symbolised both power and responsibility. He reminded them that policing authority must always be exercised within the law, and with restraint.

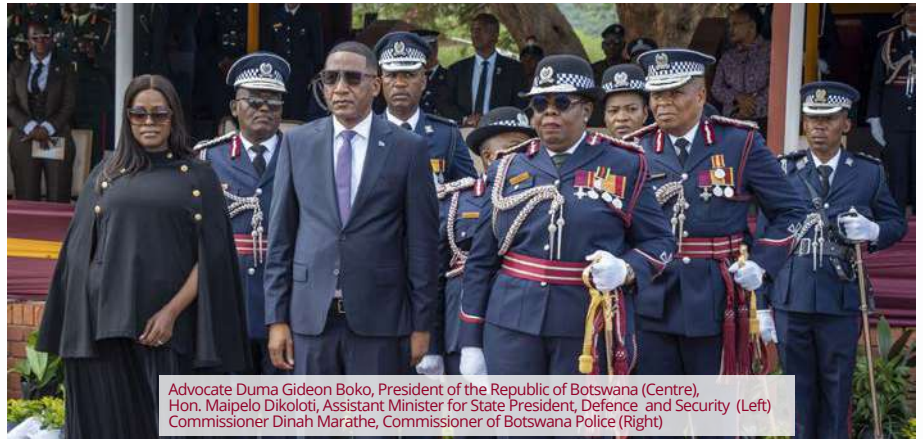
“The badge you are now wearing places a huge and onerous responsibility on you,” he said, calling on the officers to serve with honour and integrity.

He further emphasised that discipline remained the foundation of professionalism and public confidence in law enforcement, observing that ethical conduct, accountability and respect were non-negotiable values in policing. President Boko cautioned that the legitimacy of the police depended on public trust, reminding the graduates that their authority ultimately came from the communities they served. “Your authority is granted by the people you serve, and it is to them that you are accountable,” he said.

When reflecting on the mandate of the Botswana Police Service, the President reminded the officers that their primary responsibility was the protection of life and property, the prevention and detection of crime, and the maintenance of public order. He described this mandate as a sacred responsibility, urging the officers to carry it out with courage and professionalism as they moved from training to operational duty.

President Boko stated that modern policing demanded more than enforcement alone, noting that officers were often required to respond to emergencies, resolve domestic disputes, counsel victims and work closely with communities. In this regard, he encouraged the graduates to embrace community-oriented policing, saying cooperation between the police and the public was essential in addressing crime effectively.

He also highlighted that the graduation took place at a time when the Botswana Police Service was undergoing significant transformation, with increased emphasis on innovation and technology. The President said, initiatives such as cyber forensics, drone technology and the Safer City Solution were aimed at strengthening the Service’s capacity to respond to evolving crime patterns. He challenged the new officers to contribute ideas that would further modernise policing.



Advocate Duma Gideon Boko, President of the Republic of Botswana (Centre), Hon. Maipelo Dikoloti, Assistant Minister for State President, Defence and Security (Left) Commissioner Dinah Marathe, Commissioner of Botswana Police (Right)

Addressing social challenges, President Boko warned that illicit drugs and substance abuse posed a serious threat to communities, requiring decisive law enforcement action. He also expressed concern over the persistence of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), describing it as a grave threat to social stability. When citing police statistics, he noted that thousands of GBV cases were recorded annually, including cases involving children, and urged the officers to be part of the solution. “You are not just

enforcers of the law; you are the first line of defence for the vulnerable,” he said. On issues of integrity, the President cautioned that corruption had the potential to weaken institutions from within if left unchecked.

He called on the officers to remain beyond reproach and to actively resist any form of misconduct, stressing that ethical leadership at all levels was essential to sustaining public confidence in the police.



Recruits pass out parade taking an oath

As the parade drew to a close, President Boko expressed confidence that the new officers would serve the nation with dedication and integrity, before officially declaring Pre-Service Intake No. 1 of 2025/26 passed. The declaration was met with applause from the stands, where families watched with pride as the recruits marched off the square, marking the end of training and the beginning of permanent service in the Botswana Police Service.

Upon the completion of the pass out parade the President went on to commission eight solar street lights mounted along the College access roads for illumination. The lights were a donation by the Passing Out Intake who were prompted by an injury of one of their own who was knocked by a motor vehicle during their physical training. This inspired the colleagues to contribute to improving safety in patrol areas.



Spectators



# BPS DONATES 85<sup>th</sup> HOUSE IN LEJWANA VILLAGE

Story by **Cst Thatano Ntshekang**  
 Photos by **Cst Tshepang Boemo**

**O**n a chilly, partly cloudy morning of 22/12/2025, the Lejwana village community gathered in droves to witness a miracle – a fully fitted, two-bedroom house handed over to Ms Shoti Manele as an early Christmas present. The air was filled with jubilation, ululations echoing from the tent as the crowd marvelled at the P350 000 house, a testament to the Botswana Police Service (BPS), Southern Division’s generosity. The vibe was electric, with the community dancing in joy to the Botswana Police Band musical interlude.

As events unfolded, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Katholo Mosimanegape responsible for Operations, took centre stage to deliver his keynote address and officially hand over the keys to a beaming 68-year-old resident Ms Shoti Manele. Mr Mosimanegape added that Botswana police officers are partners and fellow Batswana who care about the welfare of



**Deputy Commissioner Katholo Mosimanegape**  
**Deputy Commissioner, Operations**

another and strengthen communities. He highlighted that the initiative speaks to the value of our Botswana nation and Vision 2036, which reflects building a caring, inclusive society where every Motswana lives with dignity and security.

With a proud smile, he cut the ribbon and opened the door of the brand-new home, symbolising a brighter future for Ms



**Ms Shoti Manele**  
**Beneficiary**

Manele’s family. “A home is more than just being walls and roof. It is where families feel safe, children grow with confidence and where values of respect, discipline and responsibility are nurtured,” he said these words resonating with the crowd. He wished Ms Manele a new beginning, filled with stability, lots of laughter and memories in her new home.

Giving an overview of the project, Divisional Commander South, Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police Israel Tuelo, shared that the project was conceptualised in 2020, but had to be put on hold due to COVID-19 outbreak. He explained that police officers in the Southern Division had rallied together and contributed towards the project, with its construction commencing in April 2023.

Mr Tuelo revealed that the beneficiary was identified after the police engaged with Goodhope Social Welfare Office to assist in identifying a possible beneficiary. He said they were given the names, and after assessment, they settled on Ms Manele, who was living in one room with her grandchildren. He highlighted that the Southern police officers started the project by acquiring a plot for Ms Manele through the assistance of Ngwaketse Landlord.

As she was set to share her story, it was evident that Ms Manele was overwhelmed with gratitude as she struggled to put her emotions into words. "I thank Botswana Police Service for this beautiful house they have given me. What can I do to repay this kindness? I will pray for Botswana and the police to have a life beyond this world". The community's joy was palpable, a celebration of kindness and compassion that will be etched in their memories for long.



**Kgosi Neo Lethare**  
**Lejwana Village**

In his welcome remarks earlier on, Kgosi Neo Lethare of Lejwana applauded BPS for the donation, further acknowledging the positive changes brought by the police post which opened its doors in 2023. He also acknowledged the hard work of the post Commander of Lejwana village, Sergeant Dimakatso Metswinyane, for her unity with the community of Lejwana on tackling crime in general.

The event was graced by the presence of senior officials from Goodhope District Council, BPS and residents of Lejwana. The officers' selfless act brings hope to Lejwana village, showcasing their commitment to community development. By donating their own funds and manual labour, they embody the spirit of Botho, proving that policing goes beyond law enforcement. This gesture will resonate through generations, reinforcing trust and stability in the community.



**SACP Israel Tuelo**  
**Divisional Commander, South**

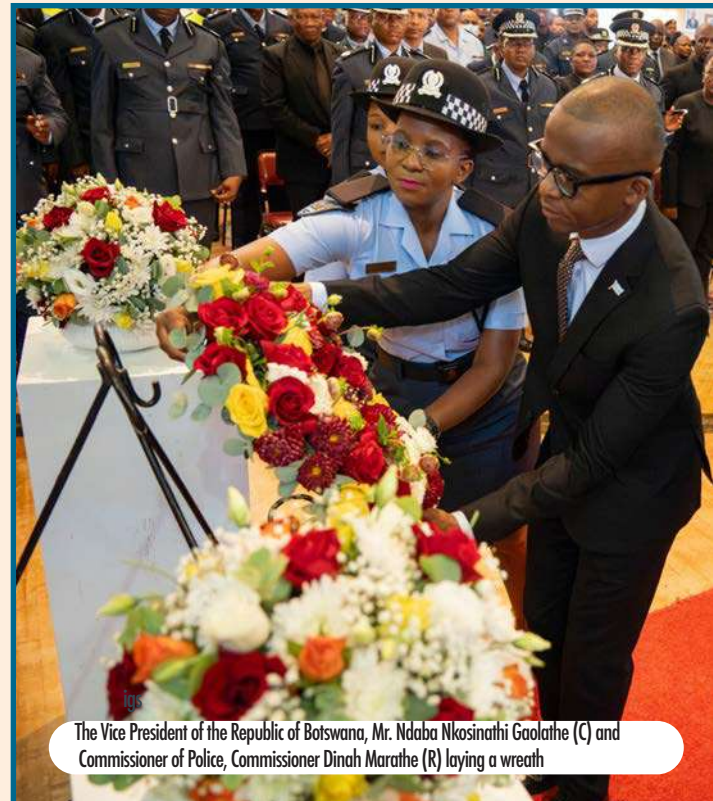


***"I thank the Botswana Police Service for this beautiful house they have given me. What can I do to repay this kindness? I will pray for Botswana and the police to have a life beyond this world"***





# INTERPOL INTERNATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR FALLEN POLICE OFFICERS THROUGH THE LENS



The Vice President of the Republic of Botswana, Mr. Ntaba Nkosingithi Gaolathe (C) and Commissioner of Police, Commissioner Dinah Marathe (R) laying a wreath





FALLEN POLICE OFFICERS



Deputy Permanent Secretary to the President, Ms. Matshidiso Bokole (L), Deputy Commissioner of Police Crime Investigations, Deputy Commissioner Busang C. Lesola



Deputy Commissioner of Police Operations, Deputy Commissioner Katlholo Mosimanegape (L) Deputy Commissioner of Police Support Services, Deputy Commissioner Stephen Tsheko





# BPS Takes Policing to the Skies with New Airborne Unit in Maun

Story and Photos by **Cst Tshepang Boemo**

The Botswana Police Service (BPS) has marked a major milestone in modern policing with the official launch of an Airborne Law Enforcement Unit in Maun, a strategic move set to enhance crime prevention, improve response times and strengthen security across the North West region.

The launch ceremony was officiated by the Minister for State President, Defence and Security, Honourable Moeti Caesar Mohwasa, and drew senior government officials, traditional leaders, members of the security sector and the public signaling a new chapter in policing strategies, one that embraces innovation, technology and partnership to safeguard communities more effectively.

In his keynote address, Minister Mohwasa reaffirmed government's commitment to resourcing and capacitating the BPS to effectively deliver on its constitutional mandate of maintaining public security, peace and stability, obligation he described as essential for sustained economic development.

He explained that the Unit will initially operate with one aircraft, with plans to expand the fleet as economic conditions improve.



**Honourable Moeti Caesar Mohwasa**  
**Minister for State President,**  
**Defence and Security**

Looking ahead, the Minister revealed that government also intends to integrate drone technology into policing operations, a move expected to decentralise services and improve police response time and detection rate.

Acknowledging the demanding nature of police work, Minister Mohwasa called on communities to support law enforcement officers, noting the violent environments and psychological trauma they often endure in the line of duty. He also commended the Commissioner of Police and her team for their resilience and dedication in managing



**Commissioner Dinah Marathe**  
**Commissioner of Police**

crime in the North West region. Giving an overview, Commissioner of Police Dinah Marathe described the establishment of the Maun-based Air Support detachment as a timely and strategic intervention in the fight against crime. She said the Unit is specifically designed to address policing challenges posed by difficult terrain, including the Okavango Delta, vast distances between settlements and cross-border crime.

The airborne unit will serve the North West Police Division, covering Maun, Ghanzi, Chobe and Okavango districts to

support ground operations through aerial surveillance, rapid response capabilities and search-and-rescue missions.

Earlier, in his welcome remarks, Kgosi Tawana Moremi II of Batawana welcomed the development, describing it as a critical boost to existing police resources. He further encouraged community members to actively participate in crime prevention committees, stressing that collaboration between the police and the public remains key to combating crime.



**Kgosi Tawana Moremi II**  
**Kgosikgolo wa Batawana**



**Honourable Goretsetse Kekgonegile**  
**Member of Parliament for Maun East**



Airborne Policing Officers Ready to Serve in Maun



Attendants

# The First Ever Female BPS Scuba Diver

Story by **Cst Justin Gaogakwe**

Photos by **Sgt Bantshwanetse Keboiretsewe**

## “THE FIRST EVER FEMALE SCUBA DIVER IN BW”

**R**escue missions, search parties in water is a thrilling yet dangerous profession for both men and women. This is to say, adequate skill, training and preparedness is very essential when executing such exercises.

With only 16 Botswana Police Service (BPS) scuba divers, to cover all parts of the country, the recruitment process to have more divers was intensified. And an addition of nine police officers under the Special Support Group

(SSG) joined the cohort and enrolled in a 10 weeks long Open Water Scuba Diving Training Course. In a male dominated field, one lady by the name of Keikantse Manana Amon was amongst the trainees seeking to become the first ever female scuba diver in Botswana.

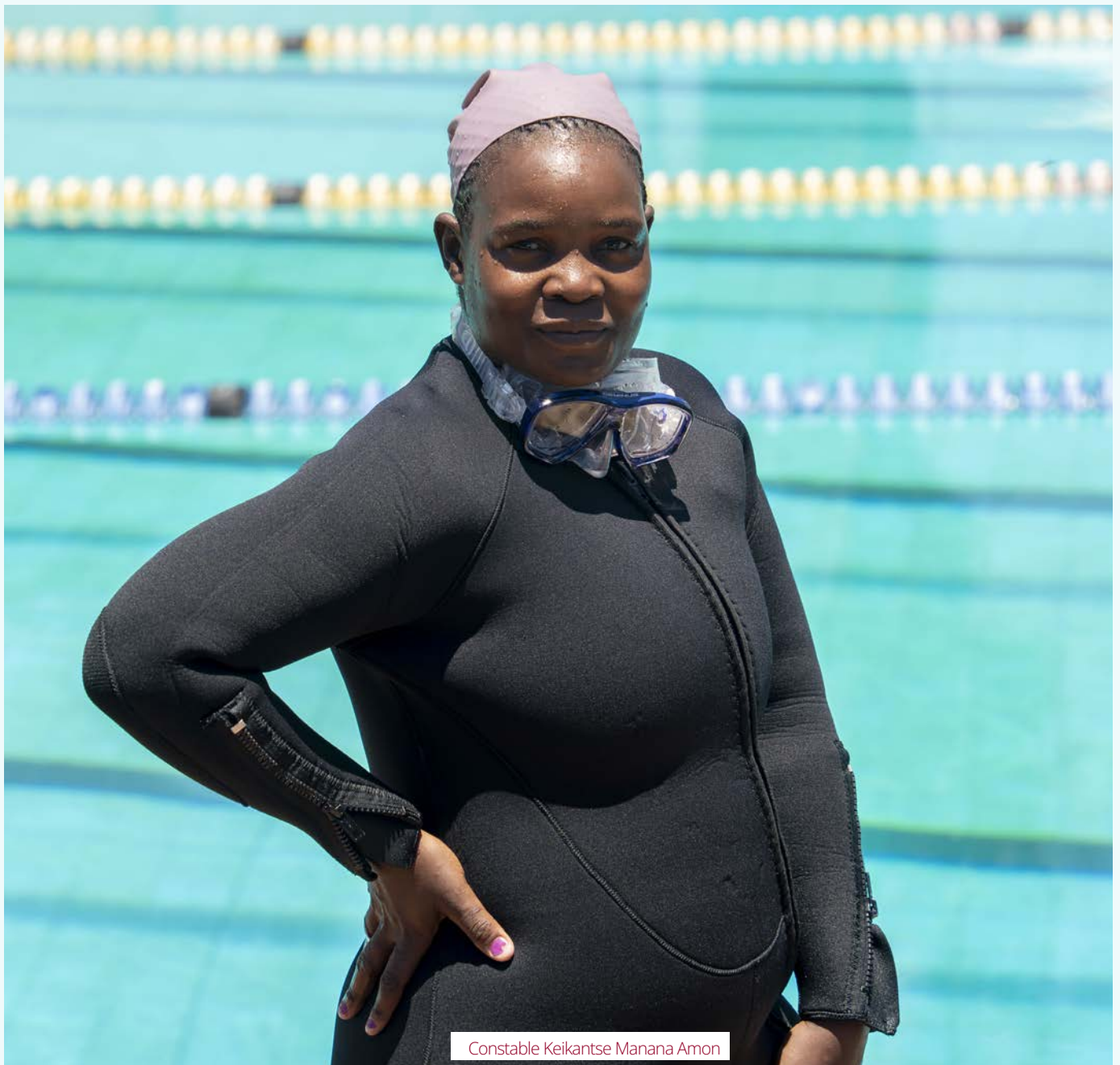
The Open Water Scuba Diving Course is a foundational certification course that allows you to dive independently with buddy to a recommended maximum depth of 18 meters (60ft). It blends theory, pool confined water practice and open water dives to build safe diving habits and confidence under water. The

course primarily focuses on building core diving skills and knowledge to counter for disasters (floods), promoting safe diver behaviours and dive planning safety procedures.

## WHO IS AMON?

Rooted in the heritage of Goshwe village, Keikantse Manana Amon grew up in Old Naledi, Gaborone with a standard academic path. She did all her education levels in the city.

After completing Botswana General Certificate School Examination, she pursued a Business



Constable Keikantse Manana Amon

Information Systems degree at ABM University. Whilst schooling she reached a pivotal crossroads during her second year, where she had to leave school and become a police officer. Despite the security of a corporate future her heart belonged in the service.

In 2012, she joined BPS as a Special Constable at Sir Seretse Khama (SSKA) Police. It was not merely a job change; but the commencement of a lifelong mission to serve her country.

Growing in the vibrant streets of Old Naledi the dream to become a police officer of note was taking shape, as she graduated from Police College in 2018 and later deployed to Special Support Group (SSG). In a world that demands conformity, Amon serves as a profound reminder that “extraordinary” is not a title given but a status earned through grit, passion and an unwavering commitment to national service.

### **BREAKING THE SURFACE: THE FIRST FEMALE SCUBA DIVER**

Amon’s hunger and passion for self-development within the organisation (at SSG) assisted her in gaining various skill sets (a biker, truck driver).

It was here that she decided to challenge the status quo in scuba driving. Driven by desire to occupy spaces previously untouched by women, she sought approval from senior management officers to join the scuba diving course.

In 2025, history was made as Ms Amon became the first female Scuba Diver in the country and the first in BPS.

“I chose scuba diving because I enjoy challenging myself physically and mentally,” she reflects. “I am passionate about learning new skills that allow me to make positive impact in my community.”

Amon described the Open Water Diver Course basic training as an empowering and humbling experience that brought sense of calm and wonder in her life.



Constable Keikantse Manana Amon



“Being under water again reminded me how strong, focused and courageous I can feel, there is something magical about breathing steadily beneath the surface and realising I have got it,” said with a protruding smile.

She said she gained more insights on advanced search patterns, underwater navigation, recovery techniques, rescue procedures and how to handle equipment in low-visibility or high stress situations. These are essential for operations involving missing persons (drowning), evidence recovery or water based emergencies.

### **A CALL TO THE NEXT GENERATION - MESSAGE TO FELLOW COUNTERPARTS**

Amon’s message to women across the country is take up spaces, be different, challenge the social norms that limit females from joining male dominated professions. She acknowledges that

breaking through the barriers that limit women requires immense strength and resilience, but she maintains that these are qualities developed through the simple brave act of showing up.

Her advice to aspiring female officers; believe in your abilities - do not allow fear to set the boundaries of your potential, work hard - trust that you deserve to be in the room, or the water, where your passion lies and inspire - your courage today serves as the blueprint for the women of tomorrow.

“The world needs more women who are brave enough to dive into the deep water,” Amon concludes.



Deputy Commander, Operations SSG, Assistant Commissioner of Police Luke Motokwane (centre), posing with scuba divers



Commissioner Dinah Marathe  
**Commissioner of Police**



Ms Lynn Jibril  
**South Central Divisional Crime Prevention Executive Chairperson,**

She said the division's strategic plan continues to yield better results, through various methods like, the Motshelo Concept whereby clusters rotate among stations to provide hands on support and practical support and also the Bonfire initiative - where community members gather for meaningful conversations of safety, crime concerns and social issue. Ms Jibril this has promoted trust and strengthened relationships and deepened collaboration between the police and the public.

When giving a brief crime report, Divisional Commander, South Central, Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police, Reginald Matlhaba described Gaborone as the epicentre of the division surrounded by big villages such as



Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police,  
Reginald Matlhaba  
**Divisional Commander, South Central**

# COMMUNITY - AN INTEGRAL PLAYER IN CRIME PREVENTION

Story by **Cst Justin Gaogakwe**

Photos by **Insp McDonald Kengaletswe**

The Commissioner of Police, Commissioner Dinah Marathe recently met with the South Central Division's Community Policing Executive Committee at Ba Isago University Hall to discuss crime prevention strategies that can elevate the safer communities by 2036 target. The Commissioner re-affirmed the Botswana Police Service's commitment to deepening community partnerships as a corner stone of national security.

Commissioner Marathe spoke profoundly of police-community partnership, citing that this is a crime prevention strategy that needs all hand on deck, "we acknowledge and recognise that law enforcement alone cannot eliminate crime without the active involvement of community members who observe, experience and understand daily realities on the ground," said the Commissioner.

She described the community policing executives as gatekeepers and commended them for contributing towards the reduction of targeted crime in several districts. She further urged them to develop crime prevention strategies that involve and empower the less privileged, the youth and the disabled people as they forpart of the society.

She said youth remain to be the most affected by crime, both as victims and perpetrators. Commissioner Marathe emphasised the need to have sustainable public security and that it can be achieved by addressing the social pressures, vulnerabilities and risk factors faced by young people. She advocated for expanded youth-focused programmes, mentorship initiatives and community engagement platforms that steer them away from criminal behaviour thus strengthening their resilience against exploitation.

For her part, South Central Divisional Crime Prevention Executive Chairperson, Ms Lynn Jibril noted that the division is filled with several functional communities that include, farmers, business, school, cluster and youth structures, describing them as the backbone of community engagement. She added that while their efforts have been worthwhile. There was a need to enhance strategies to be ahead of the evolving crime trends.

"This model, tested and proven both globally and here in Botswana, has demonstrated that when implemented with dedication, supported across level and embraced by our communities, it becomes one of the most powerful instrument for realising our shared vision: A safer and crime free Botswana by 2036," said Ms Jibril.

Mogoditshane, Mochudi, Tlokweng, Ramotswa and Metsimothabe. He said the influx of people coming in and out of the city contributes to the rate of criminal activities in the city, citing that there is a significant rise in street robberies, house invasions, stock theft and illicit drug trafficking.

Mr Matlhaba pointed out that public engagements at malls, schools and active farmers committees contributed immensely to the reduction of crime in his policing area. He reiterated that through the community participation, the organisation can fight crime in a collaborative manner to yield better results.



Attendants

# Officers Called To Prioritise Their Well-being For Effective Service Delivery

Story and Photos by **Cst Tshepang Boemo**

The Commissioner of Police, Commissioner Dinah Marathe has urged police officers to prioritise their mental and physical health, saying fitness and psychological balance are critical to effective policing.

She said this when addressing officers stationed at No 6 and No 9 Police Districts recently. The Commissioner said regular exercise, medical screening and healthy lifestyles were essential to maintaining operational readiness and preventing non-communicable diseases. She also motivated officers to engage in self development initiatives to enhance their personal and professional lives.

She reminded officers that policing demands resilience and clarity of mind, particularly in the face of increasing crime complexity, including cybercrime, financial crimes and gender-based violence. The Commissioner stressed that support structures such as counselling were not for luxury but were a necessity for people doing hectic jobs such as policing.

Commissioner Marathe also emphasised discipline, integrity and professionalism as foundations of police work, advising officers to always adhere to them as diversion would otherwise erode the police value. Furthermore, she called officers to come up with relevant strategies that will address specific local offences such as assault and defilement amongst others.

Reflecting on Operation Pabalesego II, a joint operation by BPS and BDF which had recently ended, the Commissioner praised officers for their outstanding performance, which she said



**Commissioner Dinah Marathe**  
**Commissioner of Police**



**SACP Cyprian Magalela**  
**Former Divisional Commander, North West**

positively impacted on the behaviour of members of the community resulting in a peaceful festive season.

On his remarks, Divisional Commander Southern Division, overseeing No 9 Police District, SACP Israel Tuelo expressed gratitude to the Commissioner for her guidance and unwavering support, noting that her leadership has been instrumental in shaping a disciplined, responsive, and community-focused police service. Meantime, Divisional Commander North West, responsible for No 6 Police District, SACP Cyprian Magalela appreciated the engagement noting that it boosted police officer's morale especially during this time of scarce resources.



**SACP Israel Tuelo**  
**Divisional Commander, South**



# ROOTED IN STRENGTH

By Cst Gosetsemang Chide

*At the break of dawn, beneath rising light  
And the call of duty*

*Men and women in uniform step forward  
They stand where others have chosen to retreat  
In uniforms pulled on before the world wakes*

*Their strength is not inherited nor assumed  
It is earned through long nights, hard truths  
And battles that leave no applause*

*Rooted in strength, they stand on ground others avoid,  
Lifting burdens too heavy for the ordinary,  
Safeguarding the lives of many with the resilience of  
one*

*They advance where danger persists,  
Not in pursuit of recognition,  
But to affirm that you are not left without protection*

*Even in the darkest hour  
They become the light that does not flicker  
The shield that does not yield  
They answer when no one else can answer*

*Peace does not arise by coincidence  
It endures because they stand vigilant  
Rooted in strength, they do not merely serve  
They uphold the line for nations*

# Remembering Our Departed Officers

*Revelation 14:13*

*And I heard a voice from heaven saying write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Blessed indeed, says the spirit, that they may rest from their labours, for their deeds follow them!"*



**Constable Thuso Botshabelo**

Died: 01-Sep-25

Last Station: Sojwe Police Station



**Sergeant Kanyani Molebatsi**

Died: 03-Sep-25

Last Station: Jwaneng Police Station



**Constable Wamorena David**

Died: 13-Sep-25

Last Station: Gaborone West Police Station



**Sub Inspector Molosiwa Resheng**

Died: 21-Sep-25

Last Station: Broadhurst Police Station



**Constable Ofentse Nganda**

Died: 27-Oct-25

Last Station: Special Support Group



**Inspector Oagile Masokwane**

Died: 6-Nov-25

Last Station: Tatitown Police Station



**Assistant Superintendent Dommy Tshagisi**

Died: 11-Nov-25

Last Station: Urban Police Station



**Constable Motlhagodi Bonang**

Died: 24-Nov-25

Last Station: Naledi Police Station



**Constable Molatedi Jacob**

Died: 01-Jan-26

Last Station: Tlokweng Police Station



**Constable Segomotse Maemo**

Died: 02-Jan-26

Last Station: Maun Police Station



**Sergeant Petros Lesole**

Died: 07-Feb-26

Last Station: No. 15 District Headquarters



**Sergeant Keoagile Mosweu**

Died: 15-Feb-26

Last Station: Molepolole Police Station

**May Your Souls  
Rest In Peace**

**ROBOTO GA E**

**PATREKIWE**

**NO EXCUSES, WAIT FOR THE GREEN LIGHT**

