BOTSWANA



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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 the Botswana Police Act, Cap 21:01, section 6. The Act outlines the mandate of the BPS as follows,

"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 tranquillity, apprehend offenders, bring offenders to justice, duly enforce all written laws with which it is directly charged and generally maintain the peace".

'A law enforcement Agency of Repute'



- EXCELLENCE
- INTEGRITY
- TEAM WORK

'To provide a
Professional
Policing Service,
in partnership
with the
Community'





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Hon. Thomas Kagiso Mmusi (Left) unveiling the plaque at Tsabong, with him are Hon. Sam Brooks MP for Kgalagadi South (3rd Right), Acting Commissioner Mr Phemelo Ramakorwane (2nd Right) and Deputy CEO Botswana Housing Corporation Mr Nkaelang Matenge





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POLICING THE SOCIAL MEDIA OPERATED NATION



Superintendent Selinah Omphile Assistant Public Relations Officer

As much as social media is a good technological development that is used by and large in communication. It is a two-faced animal that has the power to either build or destroy depending on the intention of the user.

If properly used, the platform have the potential to positively improve on the various aspects of communication. In this case, organisations such as the Police that hugely depend on communication can tremendously prosper in their mandates.

On the other hand, if the social media platforms are abused, they can have adverse effects and in this instance, the Police work can negatively be impacted.

The technology generation section of the nation has developed a habit of sharing everything, serious or jovial on the platforms.

As a result, BPS finds itself policing a social media operated

nation, the status that often conflicts with the interest of the police work. We see instances where visuals of fatal road accidents are taken and shared on the platforms without consideration of the the victims' families.

Social media users also flock the scenes of crime masquerading as media personnel and in the process frustrating police investigations.

The once upon a time humble and conscience nation is slowly losing some of its morals through the use of social media. The leadership of the country, various organisations and individuals are disrespected through the medium.

As a nation, we really have to take cognisance of our actions and to retrace our steps back to the morals and values that defined us as Batswana. As our setswana proverb says 'Tlhong botho.' Let us use the social medium to our own good.

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NEW HOUSES FOR TSABONG POLICE STATION

By Insp Edwin O. Ramotho

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Hon. Thomas Kagiso Mmusi

Minister of Defence & Security

eep in the Kalahari Desert sits Tsabong, a modern village situated about 515 kilometres south west of Botswana's capital city, Gaborone. According to the 2022 population census preliminary statistics put the population of Tsabong at 11 577. This number of people calls for a sizeable number of police officers to ensure that crime is manageable. At the same time the increase in manpower calls for adequate housing to accomodate the officers.

Recently the Police were handed 14 staff houses built by Botswana Housing Corporation (BHC).

Receiving the houses, the Minister of Defence and Security, Honourable Thomas Kagiso Mmusi said the houses will answer to the growth of Tsabong Village.

The Minister stated that the provision of proper shelter is essential in the officers' lives as it boosts officers' morale and in return the desired productivity is realized at work. Honourable Mmusi



Kgosi David Toto II **Tsabong village**

reiterated government's commitment in giving supporting amenities such as accommodation, office space, housing and equipment to enable the police to deliver fully on their mandate.





Hon. Sam Brooks

MP Kgalagadi South



Mr Nkaelang Matenge

Deputy CEO Botswana Housing Corporation

"The delivery of infrastructure and housing developments is key to economic, social and community development".

He revealed that Government intends to build more of such facilities in other parts of the country so as to improve service delivery.

On crime, Honourable Mmusi expressed concern at increasing incidents of Gender-Based Violence. He called on community leaders to address GBV in their respective villages by engaging with relevant stakeholders including the police. He pleaded with women to report all forms of abuse and avoid sweeping such cases under the carpet.

For his part, Kgosi David Toto II of Tsabong appreciated the new housing development as it will benefit the village. He commended government for having delivered the development despite the current economic challenges.

He also applauded Tsabong police officers for sternly fighting crime, saying his village and surrounding areas experience relatively low crime.

"BHC's mandate is to provide housing, office and other building needs to the Government and Local Authorities. In carrying out this mandate, the Corporation provides consultancy services for third parties, such as the Botswana Police Service as well as other Government Departments", enthused Botswana Housing Corporation Deputy Chief Executive Officer Mr Nkaelang Matenge when giving an overview of the project.

Mr Matenge said the construction of the Tsabong project commenced five years ago in October 2017 and was completed in March 2022. He revealed that the houses were built by a wholly-owned citizen construction company, MMAP Investments PTY Ltd, to the tune of P12.5 million. He said they did that to support Government's effort to see Batswana participate in major economic activities to empower them.

"It is with no doubt that I should admit that the project took too long to be completed. There were challenges even from the start of the project, you will agree with me that you can't find gravel in Tsabong and this meant that the Contractor had to source this commodity elsewhere. The other challenge was that the building materials were mostly sourced from as far as Gaborone. Shortage of skilled labour was also a concern and in our prompt intervention as BHC, we advised the contractor to look elsewhere within the country to minimise delays so that the project could be completed".

For his part, Member of Parliament for Kgalagadi South Constituency, Honourable Sam Brooks appreciated the government's efforts in providing infrastructure to the people of Tsabong. He urged police officers who shall occupy the newly constructed houses to take proper care of them.

"He called on community leaders to address GBV in their respective villages by engaging with relevant stakeholders including the police. He pleaded with women to report all forms of abuse and avoid sweeping such cases under the carpet."



DCPO Tours Botswana/ Zimbabwe Border

By S/I Kabelo Barogeng

Police in Bobirwa areas are faced with cross border crimes such as livestock rustling, poaching and constant vandalism of the cordon fence by local criminal syndicates conniving with foreigners.

The rivers of Shashe and Limpopo are the dividing borders between Botswana /Zimbabwe and Botswana/South Africa in the Bobirwa area. Criminals enter and exit the country at any point along these two rivers especially at the convergence of the rivers at a place known as Shalimpo.

Back in February the Deputy Commissioner of Police responsible for Operations, Mr Solomon Mantswe took a familiarisation tour of the border in the area to appreciate the work of SSG members tasked with patrolling the area.

During the tour, Mr Mantswe addressed officers and commended them for their selfless dedication to work despite the challenging terrain they have to endure on their daily patrols.

Mr Mantswe also urged them to continue working as a team and to formulate relevant strategies that will enhance their work in their pursuance of disbanding criminal syndicates.

He said that it can only be through

police inter-agency collaborations that the organisation's mandate can be fully fulfilled.

Mr Mantswe also had an opportunity to address anti-stock theft cluster members at Mabolwe village where he appreciated concerns of the residents regarding stock theft issues in the area.

He informed them that the BPS regards stock theft as one of the priority crimes hence the establishment of additional base camps along the border to augment the existing ones.

Mr Mantswe also pointed out that BPS through the Botswana/Zimbabwe Bi-

"Mr Mantswe also pointed out that BPS through the Botswana/Zimbabwe Bi-national Commission, which is chaired by the Heads of both countries have since met to map a way forward on how to address the issue of stock theft between the two countries."





Deputy Commissioner of Police responsible for Operations, Mr Solomon Mantswe (2nd Right), accompanied by Director of Operations, Senior Assistant Commissioner Pilane Sebigi (2nd Left), Divisional Commander North-Central, Senior Assistant Commissioner Christopher Mbulawa (Right) and Deputy Commander Special Support Group Baikgantshi Keiketlile

national Commission, which is chaired by the Heads of both countries have since met to map a way forward on how to address the issue of stock theft between the two countries.

In his welcome remarks, Kgosi Ezekiel Joel Masilo of Bobonong advised farmers to frequently visit their cattle posts to check on their livestock instead of leaving them in the care of herdsmen. He further urged farmers to immediately report incidents of stock theft to the Police so that investigations could be carried out promptly.

The Deputy Commissioner was accompanied by the Director

of Operations, Senior Assistant Commissioner Pilane Sebigi, Divisional Commander North-Central, Senior Assistant Commissioner Christopher Mbulawa, Deputy Commander Special Support Group Assistant Commissioner Baikgantshi Keeketlile and other Senior Police Officers.



ASSAULTS AND RAPE CASES IN RURAL VILLAGES



Superintendent Michael Maphephu Letlhakane Police Station Commander

espite several interventions by Botswana Police Service (BPS) and its stakeholders to nip in the bud physical and sexual abuse incidents, statistics continue to depict a worrisome picture in some parts of the country.

All these abominations attracted the

watchful eye of Botswana Police Magazine, prompting the scribe to probe the root cause of physical and sexual abuse incidents against women and children in particular.

Police investigations have since revealed that women and children

often find themselves at the receiving end of Gender Based Violence (GBV) perpetrated by their male counterparts. In some instances, victims of GBV are denied basic fundamental rights, such as freedom of movement, the right to life and liberty, freedom of opinion and expression and protection from inhuman treatment, as enshrined in the Constitution of Botswana.

The scribe then zoomed into two policing areas, Letlhakane and Serowe, which are also affected by common assaults and sexual abuse incidents. In an interview with Station Commander for Letlhakane, Superintendent Michael Maphephu, who oversees Letlhakane and areas such as Mmeya, Mmatshumu, Khwee and Mokubilo, he said incidents of rape and assaults continue to be a concern mainly because of Cultural norms that often dictate that men are dominant, while women are docile, subservient and rely on men as providers.

The Station Commander pointed out that most of the incidents occurred at the villages of Mokubilo and Khwee about 110 km and 59 km from Letlhakane respectively. "The residents are concerned about these disturbing incidents some of which are committed in broad daylight by perpetrators known to victims," he said.

Mr Maphephu said there is need for a multi-pronged approach to address incidents of rape and assaults in the villages. The Station Commander stated that many of the cases recorded emanated from drinking spots and



When sharing statistics of crime recorded in his policing area Mr Maphephu said for the year 2019 they recorded 95 rape cases showing an increase as compared to 77 in 2020 and 73 in 2021. Defilement incidents on the other hand, have also been realising a steady increase with the year 2019, 2020 and 2021 recording 28, 33 and 53 cases respectively.

As for physical violations in 2019, nine cases of Grievous harm were recorded against six incidents in 2020 and 20 in 2021. Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm stood at 210 in 2019 against 183 in 2020 and 147 in 2021.

"To mitigate the situation, we have intensified our public education campaigns in collaboration with our Crime Prevention Cluster Policing forums."

Superintendent Maphephu said during these educational campaigns they educate the general public about the consequences of indulging in criminal activities. He noted that the youth are vulnerable groups susceptible to crime, either as victims or perpetrators. "It is imperative to remove any crime veil that could negatively impact their future."

The Station Commander said the police have collaborated with various sectors of the community to curb physical and sexual abuse in the area. He indicated that in 2020, the police organised an event to educate residents of Letlhakane and surroundings areas about Gender-Based-Violence.

As for the community, Mr Maphephu said that their participation in the fight against crime is of utmost importance to help curb social ills. "Whilst faced with such mishaps, I would like to thank the community for their positive roles in the fight against crime."



Superintendent Poloko Oteng
Serowe Police Station Commander

Serowe Police Station Commander Superintendent Poloko Oteng shared the same sentiments and concerns as alluded to by Superintendent Maphephu.

Serowe Police Station covers places like Mashoro, Malatswai, Thabala, Motshegaletau and Mogorosi amongst others.

He said even though crime statistics occasionally fluctuated, GBV remain a concern. A total of 615 Assault Common cases were recorded by Serowe Police in 2019 compared to 486 in 2020 while in 2021 a total of 485 cases were recorded, and other assaults were as follows; Assault Occasioning Actual Bodily Harm

accounted for 239 in 2019 against 263 in 2020 while in 2021 259 cases were recorded, Unlawful wounding stood at 117 in 2019 while in 2020, a total of 95 incidents were registered and in 2021 74 cases were recorded.

As for Rape cases, in 2019, 131 cases were recorded against 118 incidents in 2020. In 2021, 119 rape cases were recorded.

Superintendent Oteng urged members of the public to report any incidents of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) to the police. "In that way, criminals will be made to pay for their deeds in prison." He concluded.

"Mr Maphephu said there is need for a multi-pronged approach to address incidents of rape and assaults in the villages. He stated that some of the incidents are caused by erosion of social norms, alcohol abuse and poor parenting"



A Chat with Mautle

By Insp Edwin O. Ramotho

District, Mr Oreeditse Mautle is one of those police officers who were lucky enough to live long and reach their mandatory retirement age of 60. He served the country as a police officer for 40 years from a tender age of 19. Born to his late parents Mr Ofaletse Mautle and Mrs Keaobona Mautle, the retired cop recalls knocking on the doors of the then Botswana Police Training Depot at Village in Gaborone in 1976 to enroll as a recruit

constable, a union he does not regret. He found a new home and grew up to be a great officer we know in the policing circle today. Mautle completed his recruit training and came out as a top student with a pass rate of 82%. He was first posted to Central Police Station in Gaborone under General Duties and before completing his probation period of two years, he was sent back to Police Depot to do a driving course in 1978. In 1979, he was transferred to Jwaneng Police Station as one of the guinea pigs of the newly established police station. "I remember

that Jwaneng Station was located where Debswana Jwaneng Mine currently stands. There were only seven of us at the Station, a Sub Inspector as the Station Commander, a Sergeant as his Deputy, four constables under general duties and one under Diamond and Narcotics" recalls Oreeditse.

"Back then, we did not specialise, we dealt with all criminal offences including traffic laws, drew sketch plans at the scene of crime and there were no digital cameras like the modern era", says Mautle.



In 1980 he was sent to study Radio/Teleprinter's course at Transport and Telecommunication Branch (TTB) and after completion he was transferred to TTB the same year where he worked in the Radio Workshop.

"My first promotion was to the rank of Sergeant in 1982. The following year I was promoted again to Sub-Inspector and this led to my transfer to Kanye Police Station in the same year. While in Kanye I was deployed under general duties, but I was the one prosecuting all cases registered under the station, be it general crime, traffic or stock theft," he said.

Mr Mautle recalled that in 1985 he was together with Mr Ikwatlhaeng Bagopi (former Deputy Commissioner Support Services from 2002 - 2003), the late Phazdha Kgalemang, Mr Jafali Mpundisi, Mr Seletso Ditiragalo still serving as police officers holding the ranks of Assistant Commissioner of Police and the late Mr Chelani Tlale, were sent to the University of Botswana (UB) to study law where after completion, they were awarded a Certificate in Law. "Whilst in the middle of the course in 1985. I was promoted to the rank of Inspector and this led to my transfer to Bobonong Police Station upon completion of my studies in 1986. I was to take the post of station commander." narrates Oreeditse Mautle.

In 1988 he was transferred to Selibe-Phikwe as District Prosecutor and two years later Mr Mautle was promoted to the rank of Assistant Superintendent in 1990 followed by that of Superintendent in 1993. The same year he was transferred to Francistown Central Police as Station Commander.

The epitome of his career was at Gaborone West Police Station where he was transferred in 1997 as the man in charge. While at Gaborone West Mr Mautle proved to have developed a thick skin in policing. "Gaborone West by then was littered with shebeens which made it easier for criminals to convene and plan their misdeeds. I vowed to close down shebeens that were operating illegally in this policing area because many of the heinous crimes emanated from there. I remember very well that the move made me unpopular as some residents felt that I was being too hard on them and and that they should be left to do their illegal businesses. But in the end, with the help of my team of police officers and crime prevention activists, the strategies yielded positive results" reminisces Mautle.

"Prosecution was at my heart, I breathed it, even as the Station Commander, I played a huge part in the prosecution of cases registered in my Station. I would inspect cases and advice my juniors on how to close any loopholes before they went to court, and this led to a high conviction rate of offenders."

He was promoted to the rank of Senior Superintendent in 2004 and was transferred to Letlhakane in the same year as Officer Commanding. Two years later he was transferred to Northern Division as Deputy Divisional Commander after being promoted to the rank of Assistant Commissioner. In 2008, he took the reigns of Divisional Commander after his promotion to the rank of Senior Assistant Commissioner. He was transferred to Lobatse as Divisional Commander Southern Division in 2011. "The Division covers a huge area stretching from Lobatse covering areas such as Tsabong, Bokspits, Mabutsane, Kang, Gantsi all the way to Charleshill", says Oreeditse.

In recognition of his dedication and commitment to work, Mr Mautle was awarded the following medals; Botswana Police Long Service & Good conduct (1995) Botswana Police Jubilee Service Medal (2002) and Botswana Police Distinguished Service Order (2007). Whilst with BPS, he attended several courses that included; International Command Course, Bramshill England, (2001), Internal Law Executive Course, USA (2003), Focused Leadership Programme for Senior Management, USA (2013).

When his journey in policing was coming to an end in 2016, just a year towards reaching the mandatory retirement age of 60 years, he was transferred to Gaborone to head Anti-Stock Theft Branch. On January the 31st of 2017, he hung up his handcuffs after trotting the country and providing a professional policing service to Batswana. That was just the beginning of another journey of civilian life. He headed for his farm in Hukuntsi, (Oreeditse and Sons) where he is doing integrated farming.

Mr Mautle tied a knot in marriage to Mrs Keitsheletse Violet Mautle in 1993 and they are blessed with four children, two sons and two daughters.

Asked by this writer to advise the men and women in blue still holding the shield to protect the lives and property of this nation, he was quick to say that enthusiasts prosper in their journey of life. "I encourage police officers to regularly read guiding policies like Standing Orders and understand the law so that they enforce it without fear or favour," he concluded.



DMPU - PROTECTING OUR DIAMONDS

By Insp Botlhale Kentshitswe

n 1967, just a year after Botswana gained independence, a huge diamond mine was discovered in Orapa and as years progressed, other diamond mines were opened in Letlhakane, Jwaneng and Damtshaa.

Since then, diamonds have contributed immensely to the country's human capital, infrastructure development, education and health care among others. The captivating journey of diamonds

from the pit to the finger is linked to the beautiful Botswana we see today. Such developments called for provision of security of this most admired stone on planet earth.

To ensure safety and security of diamonds, Botswana Police Service established a Diamond Squad in 1972, a Unit under Criminal Investigations Department (CID). The Unit was led by the late Superintendent Gaonkitse

Nawa Wairi, who retired in 1975. Eight years later, the Diamond Squad was charged with yet another responsibility of investigation, prevention and detection of prohibited narcotics hence the name changed to Diamond and Narcotics Squad (DNS).

This came after notable incidents of unlawful possession and illegal importation of illicit drugs in the country. The emergence of elephant and rhino

"He pointed out that the DMPU has put in place strategies to ensure that minerals are protected from criminal syndicates operating in the region and beyond."





Senior Superintendent Pelontle Chester Morolong

poaching for their tusks and horns as well as live capture of predator species for sale meant the Unit had to add another responsibility to include wildlife related matters.

In 2013, the DNS was re-arranged to give birth to two units, Diamond and Minerals Protection Unit (DMPU) and Narcotics Fauna and Flora Investigations (NFFI) came into being following the relocation of Diamond Trading Company from London to Gaborone (DTCB).

This development in the diamond industry necessitated the establishment of the Unit to deal with diamond related matters only. The DMPU has so far managed to ensure that the DTCB settle well and manage its operations perfectly. They have also managed to police the diamond cutting factories properly even though it was a new issue to this country. A number of diamond cutting factories increased resulting in increased diamond

movement. The Unit now had to protect shipments of diamonds from local mines to international markets. The DMPU has extended its operations throughout the country, including ports of entry to ensure that Botswana's diamonds are protected.

Police Magazine recently caught up with Senior Superintendent Pelontle Chester Morolong, Officer Commanding Diamond and Minerals Protection Unit (DMPU) to find out more about the operations of the Unit. "Jewels, gems and precious metals are prone to theft the world over, so they need protection," Morolong pointed out.

Mr Morolong said the protection of minerals in Botswana is the responsibility of BPS hence the formation of the Unit. He pointed out that the DMPU has put in place strategies to ensure that minerals are protected from criminal syndicates operating in the region and beyond. He indicated that so far remarkable achievements have been made since the establishment of the Unit.

Mr Morolong said they have a very cordial relationship with other stakeholders such as mine security personnel through information sharing and intelligence gathering. "As a result of the good working relationship with other stakeholders, we have managed to effect arrests of people over the years." he said.

Morolong expressed concern about some precious stone dealers license holders who are defrauded or swindled of their monies by people purporting to be diamond dealers outside the country.

He pleaded with local license holders to enquire with relevant offices such as the police about the authenticity of people they are dealing with before they part with their monies.

Mokoti-the Ex-Cop



By ACP Dipheko Motube

ike many other aspiring young men in the northern part of the country,
Jimmy Mokoti developed a look south idea, in search of employment in Gaborone in 1977 leaving the banks of the mighty Chobe river in Kachikau.

His first employment was with the Department of Roads, located right at the doorsteps of the eastern gate of Botswana Police College at the Village suburb in Gaborone. It was this venture that catapulted him into a successful journey to join the then Botswana Police Force.

He was recruited to join Botswana Police Force by his homeboy, Lesego Smith Phorano who was an Inspector and Instructor at the Botswana Police College. Mr Phorano and Ms Salome Jankie, may their souls rest in peace, visited Mokoti at the caravans he was staying at the construction site at Boladu Settlement between Oodi and Mokatse and lured him to join the Botswana Police Force.

Jimmy would later on in 1979 join the then Botswana Police Force at the age of 23, holding a Standard 7 certificate he acquired from Kachikau Primary School.

He joined alongside the likes of Robbert Masibi, Christopher Matome, Gwilisani Tau, Othusitse Motswai and many others. Upon completion of his training in October of the same year, he was posted to Lobatse. Constable Mokoti would in 1980 get transferred to Moshupa and rose through the ranks from Sergeant to Assistant Superintendent within six years. He became a sergeant in 1986 and Sub Inspector the following year still stationed at Moshupa. Mokoti was

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Retired Superintendent Jimmy Mokoti during the interview

transferred to Maun in 1988 where he was later on in 1989 elevated to the rank of full Inspector before becoming an Assistant Superintendent in 1991.

During his service he was awarded Botswana Police Long Service and Good Conduct medal in 1997, Jubilee Service Medal in 2004 and Distinguished Service Order in 2009.

Mr Mokoti said he has been through a lot during his 35-year policing career and was proud to be part of the humble beginnings of the Botswana Police Force characterised by meagre resources which they used effectively to deliver the functions of the organisation.

He remembers that resources such as motor vehicle transport were scarce and they had to use bicycles for patrols and trips outside work stations.

He recalled vividly the wearing of khakhi shorts uniform, which was used mainly by junior officers whilst long trousers were reserved for senior officers only. The wearing of khakhi shorts was not conducive especially during winter because it was the only uniform available for junior officers. Mokoti remembers an

incident in July 1980 when they attended the State funeral of the founding President of Botswana, Sir Seretse Khama at Serowe in freezing temperatures. They were hammered by a cold front for three days on shorts made from sack like material.

Apart from police core business Mr Mokoti used to manage the resources of the Botswana Police recreational facilities when he was a Station Commander at Sehitwa between 2006 and 2010 after his promotion to the rank of Superintendent in 2006. He enthused on how he used to rake in a lot of money at Sehitwa Police Mess selling beverages adding that the business became lucrative and other police messes from across the country visited him to benchmark.

Having retired in 2014 and looking back at his journey that include among others self-developing himself by attaining further education up to Junior Certificate, Mokoti has no regrets. During his service, he acquired other educational certificates from overseas institutions.

Moving on to crime, former Superintendent Mokoti says the only worrisome offence in the area is poaching. Interestingly, stock theft which is a problem across the country for years, has never been a problem in his area. He attributes this to the environment in which they are living. Mr Mokoti shared sentiments that failure by farmers to kraal their livestock has been one of the major contributing factors to stock theft.

He revealed that in their situation herding and kraaling of livestock is taken seriously by every farmer lest they expose them to wildlife. This has created a very positive culture of taking care of livestock in Chobe with kraals erected next to homesteads in all the villages.

Although Mr Mokoti acknowledges this success as a heroic feat by any recent police achievements standards, he dismisses the idea of possible luck alone playing a major role in his achievements saying luck is something you can attract toward yourself. He is of the opinion that there is correlation between good luck, the right attitudes and choices in life.

He opines that most people associate luck as a game of chance. And while there is an element of chance it does not define the game. Being lucky is a reflection of choices we make.

He is now back home in Kachikau giving back to his community and finding him even after an appointment was a challenge because he is a very busy man.



Retired Superintendent Jimmy Mokoti



Superintendent Chenamo Orateng **Maun Police Station Commander**

Maun Community in a War Pact Against GBV

By S/Insp Macdonald Kengaletswe

ender-Based Violence (GBV) is an insidious societal cancer that should never be left to fester. Left unabated GBV will ferment into a toxic concoction that sears right into the soul of a nation.

As shown by Maun village's various including stakeholders. Botswana Police Service (BPS), community effort remains the best weapon against GBV. Other stakeholders include Women Against Rape (WAR), Ministers Fraternal, the District Commissioner's office and others who have all made it their goal

to decimate the problem in the tourism region.

The Problem

The takeaway from our interviews with Maun's anti-GBV crusaders is that the enemy takes on many forms. Maun Police Station Commander, Superintendent Chenamo Orateng, cited assaults, which range from minor to serious ones such as grievous harm, that occur between romantic partners as some of the GBV related offences they often deal with.

"From our observation, most of these

assaults happen after misunderstandings and drinking spells," Superintendent Orateng observed.

Mr Orateng stated that this violence, which at times end in loss of life, occurs in all forms of romantic relationships from the cohabiting to the married - a fact also backed by the District Commissioner's

"GBV knows no bounds; it can ensnare even those in marriages that may seem to be stable," chimed Ms Tryphinah Mbotho, a District Officer in the Maun Administrative Authority.

"Ms Mbotho also revealed that although most victims are females, there are also men who suffer at the hands of their wives but are afraid of speaking out for fear of being stigmatised as "not being man enough"

Ms Mbotho explained that as the District Commissioner's office, their duty goes beyond just solemnising marriages but also help married couples to deal with complex conflicts.

She said that in their dealings with married couples, they have observed that GBV in marriages can be hard to deal with. This, she said could be a result of societal or cultural norms which discourage victims from airing their dirty laundry in public.

"We have also observed that in marriages, most of the victims who suffer in silence are usually those in perceived economic disadvantage such as stay at home mothers," she said.

Ms Mbotho also revealed that although most victims are females, there are also men who suffer at the hands of their wives but are afraid of speaking out for fear of being stigmatised as "not being man enough".

Other GBV related cases experienced in the region include sexual offences such as defilement of young girls and rape. Maun-based Women Against Rape (WAR) organisation has been a champion in the battle for decades and continues to study the dynamics that contribute to the proliferation of sexual violence.

WAR Executive Director Ms Peggie Ramaphane reiterated that most sexual violence victims are usually women and girls.

"Most of the time, the perpetrators of this violence are usually people close or well known to victims, who include friends, relatives and even biological parents," Ms Ramaphane articulated.

The WAR Executive Director was also of the view that some societal norms hindered arresting the problem. These toxic norms include the victim's family refusal to engage or cooperate with the Police in bringing the offenders to book simply because they are relatives.

"We have also dealt with cases where elderly men under the guise of culture take in girls younger than 18 years to be their wives, and nobody in the community bats an eyelid over the situation," Ms Ramaphane revealed.

The Solution

"The Maun stakeholders' all hands on deck approach remains our best shot at eliminating GBV in our community," reasoned Prophet Thato Patric Elias, Chairperson of the Ministers' Fraternal (an organisation made up of various churches in the village).

The Ministers' Fraternal Chairperson was of the view that the solutions that they all come up with should be long

"What we should remember is that some of the societal attitudes that enable GBV have been fermenting for generations, and it will take persistence and patience to defeat them," Prophet Elias said.

One of the strategies that all the stakeholders use in dealing with GBV is public education aimed at sensitising the public on the issue.

All the various community stakeholders that Police Magazine interviewed



Ms Tryphinah Mbotho



Ms Peggie Ramaphane

were appreciative of the support that the Police in the region offer in this fight. This support extended beyond receiving, investigating and prosecuting GBV cases but helping facilitate public education forums.

The Police, through Superintendent Orateng also expressed appreciation at how these community leaders and their organisation help them in detecting and cracking some cases.

"We are also grateful that they aid us in helping victims through counselling and even shelter as provided by WAR," Mr Orateng added.



Remembering the "Jungle Kings" Legends



By ASP Selebatso Mooketsi

hen it comes to listing those who once donned the maroon and gold jersey of Police XI Football Club, some of the names that ring a louder bell are that of Therisanyo "Tshutshu" Haake, and Ndiyapo "Bulldozer" Letsholathebe

These names used to send football enthusiasts into wonderland the moment the fellows possessed the ball. The two made spectators go wild at their mention. They surely fitted the game of football and were a marvel to watch when on the field of play.

The duo finds themselves attached to the triumphs of Police XI popularly known as "The Jungle Kings" which was founded in 1974, in the Capital City Gaborone. The Jungle Kings have an iconic history in football circles. Besides having a story to tell about some of its former players whose names used to be sweet melody to the ears of football fanatics, the club features in Botswana football record of victories.

On the flipside of the club's wins and accolades, the Jungle Kings once scooped position two during the Lions Cup in 1987 while BDF XI emerged the winner. It also participated in the Confederation of African Football (CAF) Champions League where it locked horns with Saniento Rangol FC of Angola, TP Mazembe FC of Democratic Republic of Congo and Enungu Rangers FC of Nigeria. These games were after the club lifted the domestic Mascom Premier League trophy in 2006. The team had on several occasions found themselves in the top 8 of the Premier League table. The club also played friendly games in Lesotho, South Africa, Swaziland, Namibia and Zimbabwe.

With the club now on the verge of clocking five full decades of existence, the scribe found it worthwhile to connect the reader with the past and give an insight on the journey of the Club's legends of their time. The days when the superstars had the stamina of running on the field for the whole regulation time of 90 minutes and even at extra time without showing signs of fatigue.

From 1995 to 2011 was the shining period for Tshutshu Haake, the club's captain. The commentator could not cease calling his name while he made those defence splitting passes to the team mates. Ndiyapo Letsholathebe was a household name as he was also a regular in the national football team. Amazingly, Bulldozer wore Jersey number 2 for the club and even at the national team, the Zebras for over a 10-year span.

Therisanyo "Tshutshu" Haake

The only club captain who wore the arm band for the best part of his playing career. Tshutshu was one of the key players who turned Police XI into one of the most-storied clubs in Botswana football. The squat, firm body built Tshutshu, possessed surprising acceleration and amazing agility, making him a threat to score nearly every time he touched the ball in the opponent's end. He helped his club earn maximum points and bagged the Mascom League in the 2005/2006 season.

Apart from having donned Police XI colours, Tshutshu was called several times to the Zebras' training camps. He found himself training with his colleagues like Dennis Kaelo, Ditaola Ditaola and Dintle Valdo Mogomotsi.

Before joining Police XI in 1995 at age 24, Tshutshu played for Nata Soccer Chiefs during his teen years, Kazungula Wanderers while at Tirelo Sechaba and Gaborone United where he met Brenda Nxenxa and Chandi Moruti.

The longest serving captain of his time, started as a winger, the position he outperformed a number of years. Later in the years, Tshutshu played in the midfield until he hanged his Jersey 14 in 2011.

"I was a first team player because of my ball distribution skills. The coach and players had so much trust in me and that's why I wore the captain's arm band for the longest period. I would say, The Jungle Kings was my second family because of the level of commitment and discipline displayed by the entire team."

He recalled the good times he had with Summer Ncube, Ditaola Ditaola, Valdo Mogomotsi and Duncan Kgopolelo. Tshutshu said the quartet made football interesting as they had subtle skills needed by the spectators. The pace, physical strength and skill they possessed better describe the kind of players they were.

Tshutshu's highlight was when Police XI was headed for relegation at the end of the 1997/1998 season and it escaped by a whisker after Tasc suffered a 2-1 defeat. This came after the two teams secured equal points, equal forward and equal against and one had to relegate to the First Division League.

"A neutral location was agreed upon and Orapa was where the two teams met to decide who would relegate or remain in the Premier League. In the first half, Tasc led by a goal and during the second half we equalised through Stagato Marope's goal. That's when we had to go for extra time."

During extra time, Tshutshu Haake scored a beautiful goal in the last 15 minutes of the game. That was after he tapped the ball over Garry Mokandawire of Tasc to find the back of the net. All thanks to the Police XI goal keeper of the game, Newman Shima Mooketsi who made several saves for his team. Tshutshu described him as one of the best talented goal keepers of his time.

One other memorable game that Tshutshu



Therisanyo 'Tshutshu" Haake

mentioned was when Police XI clashed with Township Rollers at Molepolole Sports Complex in 2003. Rollers suffered a 6-1 defeat. "Rollers has always been a tough team. Every encounter with Rollers was never smooth sailing so on that day, we made history by beating one of the best teams in the land. Like they always say in football circles, when you want to be the best, beat the best."

Tshutshu remembered his head coach as Clever Hunda, the late Barry Daka, Isaiah Sthanda Mogwadi, Vincent Chileshi and Prince Mokandawire.

Ndiyapo Letsholathebe

Bulldozer as the fans fondly referred to him, played under head coach, Clever Hunda, Sthanda Mogwadi and the late Barry Daka. The nick name "Bulldozer" fitted well with Ndiyapo as his body structure says it all. Incredibly tall, muscular and comfortable in his own skin, Ndiyapo exercised irresistible strength, especially in dispossessing of opponents.

The Francistown born, grew up in Gaborone where he started playing football on the streets as early as eight years. At age 10, Ndiyapo joined Mogoditshane based Matebejana Football Club where he exhibited distinctive traits of a bulldozer he would become in later years.

"I joined the Kings in 2002 at the age of 19 and a year later, I was called to the national team. It was such an honour to have my name on the list of the Zebras. Muscular as I am, no opponent could dispossess me of the ball when I was in action. They knew I could stand firm and never allowed my opponents to penetrate the 18th area."

Ndiyapo was a central defender and his combination with Themba Ketshabile (another central defender), Obed Mokgosi



Ndiyapo Letsholathebe

(right back) and the late Inaganeng Matthews (left back) made up a complete and unbreakable Police XI defence.

The Bulldozer was one of those players that led Police XI to victory in the 2005/2006 season. When his team mates were busy celebrating the Mascom trophy in 2006, Ndiyapo did not feature in most of the photos as he was in an interview for scooping man of the match award. He displayed the most outstanding performance in the game.

"I gave my all during one of the last matches that led us to lifting the trophy. That was when we clashed with Tasc Football Club at Botswana Police College in Otse. It was a tough encounter but we beat Tasc 2-1."

The icing on the cake for Bulldozer during that memorable season, was when his team played BDF XI at Botswana Police College in Otse. At the 30th minute of the first half, the referee indicated an indirect free kick after Betsho Pius of Police XI was fouled on the edge of the 18th area. The team won by three sterling goals of Duncan Kgopolelo, Richard Mwanza and Bulldozer's free kick to nil of BDF XI.

"I was thrilled to score against BDF XI goal keeper Modiri Marumo who also happened to be the national team's number one keeper. He was a player that possessed very unique skill sets to being a good goal keeper."

Ndiyapo Letsholathebe is now Head Coach for Great North Tigers (GNT) Football Club in Francistown since 2019.

In a number of his appearances, the one and only Tshutshu Haake who donned the captain's arm band played alongside, Valdo Mogomotsi, Ditaola Ditaola, Richard Mwanza and the late Oliver Pikati.



FINANCIAL CRIME: SOUTH AFRICAN FRAUD GANG DISMANTLED

ARRESTS IN SOUTH AFRICA HIGHLIGHT GLOBAL THREAT OF CYBER **ENABLED FINANCIAL CRIME**

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa - A fraud gang suspected of swindling a US-based company out of some EUR 455,000 has been taken down in raids across Johannesburg led by investigators from the Hawks Serious Commercial Crimes Unit and US Secret Service agents, and supported by INTERPOL.

With investigations on-going, the operation led to the arrest of seven people allegedly linked to a Nigerian organized crime syndicate that specializes in online fraud. The suspects allegedly bought luxury vehicles with the proceeds of their crimes.

The fraud gang suspects allegedly bought luxury vehicles with the proceeds of their crimes

The operation was part of a global initiative under the framework of INTERPOL's Global Financial Crime Task Force (IGFCTF), where 14 countries including South Africa and the United States work closely together to tackle the global threat of cyber enabled financial crime.

The suspects - four men and three women aged between 25 and 42 - are believed to be key figures in a global crime syndicate involved in fraud and money laundering.

The gang is also believed to be behind romance scams, using fake online identities to lure vulnerable men and women to transfer money. Romance scams generate millions of US dollars worldwide.

Commending the collaborative work of the multi-disciplinary team which led to the arrests, Hawks head Lt-Gen Godfrey Lebeya said: "Organized criminal groups should know law enforcement agencies are collaborating on an international level to dismantle criminal networks."

The Johannesburg operation is one of several global operations under the framework of IGFCTF where law enforcement authorities are working together to crack down on West African fraud syndicates targeting individuals and businesses worldwide.

The authorities involved are now working closely with INTERPOL to track the

movements of the gang's money worldwide, with investigations focusing on a worldwide criminal syndicate known as Black Axe, which allegedly used business email compromise (BEC) scams to defraud a US-based mental health institute.

BEC scams usually target third-party vendors to gain access to business email accounts after which payments are diverted to the bank accounts of money mules.

Michael K. Burgin of the US Secret Service said: "The fight against cyberenabled crime knows no boundaries, and the collaborative efforts in this case show how vital it is to work collectively with our international partners to execute impactful takedowns of these highly organized transnational criminal syndicates."

Eight suspected Black Axe leaders were arrested in Cape Town and Johannesburg in 2021, leading to a massive drop in the group's activities and similar crimes. They face extradition to the US, where they are charged with stealing more than EUR 6.25 million from romance scam victims there.

"Taking advantage of globalization and digitization processes, criminals are able to commit financial crimes with increasing efficiency and sophistication," said Rory Corcoran, Acting Director, INTERPOL Financial Crime and Anti-Corruption Centre (IFCACC).

"The Johannesburg arrests highlight the importance of international cooperation between INTERPOL and its global law enforcement partners to target and disrupt the criminal syndicates involved in all forms of financial crimes and corruption," added Mr Corcoran.

Since its creation in January, the Centre has helped INTERPOL member countries intercept more than EUR 4.5 million tied to BEC and romance frauds.

Source: www.interpol.int



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- Wear a seat belt every time
- Carry reflective gear so that you and your vehicle or mode of transport are visible to other drivers.

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