

# Armed gang of three target St Francis homes

## R5000 reward offered for info leading to their arrest

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An intrepid gang of three armed burglars are currently being sought by St Francis Bay SAP following a spate of daring burglaries in the St Francis area in January, last month.

To this end the SAP have offered a R5000 reward

The burglars were responsible for at least four heists, one of which resulted in scuffles with an occupant of a house who was stabbed during the altercations.

The SAP have searched the area and cannot find the stolen loot - ranging from laptops, cell phones, wallets and cash. It is believed the thieves dispose of the goods by hiding it immediately - possibly out of town.

During their raids searching for gang members and for the loot, cops were unable to trace either. Police did, however, seize some drugs and recovered a TV set, binoculars and a weed-eater... items that were stolen but not reported missing (see photo of goods p6).

During the first incident in broad daylight, on 16 January three guys aged between 20 and 27 from Cape Town were staying in a house at the AirPark when the three robbers cut the fencing of the park and then confronted the three guys at 3 pm. The guys were tied up and robbed of their laptops, jewellery and R100 000 cash.

On Tuesday the following week the gang approached a woman having a smoke outside her St Francis Bay house just after midnight. They forced her back into the house and took laptops and cellphones.

They then went back to the airpark but were spotted so they ran away.

The following Monday, 27th January, they returned to the airpark but were again spotted. So they went to Cape St Francis. A woman in a house there heard a noise downstairs and looking down saw some guys climbing through a window. They shone a torch in her face so she could not identify them. So she locked herself and her son in the bathroom and pressed the panic button... The thieves took a laptop and ran off.

While the cops were investigating this robbery, the trio were already making their way to the Port where they entered a house in Cayenne street around 4 am... There were two guys of 20 and 24 with their father staying in a house and they had left the sliding door open to let the little dog in. The youngest guy was woken up by one of the thieves trying to take his watch off his arm. He called to his sibling and dad and there was a scuffle between them all, during which the 20 year-old was injured by a knife or screw driver that was stabbed in his neck and twice in his back. The trio then took a wallet with R4000 cash, a watch and a cellphone.

The police are investigating the possibility of out of town robbers being involved.

The police have also offered a reward of R5000 for information leading to the arrest of the culprits. Call 042 200 1800.

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