

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



ISSUE 29 – January 2007

'Working in Partnership for a Safer City'

Divisional Commander's Message

CITY
WATCH

Speaking to you in my first Divisional Newsletter, I am pleased to announce that at the end of December 2006, recorded crime across the Capital was 5% lower than at the same time last year. Detection rates also improved with a 6% increase in the number of crimes being solved citywide. Improved performance can be attributed to many factors, not least the fact that the police, the City of Edinburgh Council and many private and voluntary agencies across the Capital are now working closely together to improve safety.

Work is progressing towards 1st April 2007, when existing police beats will be realigned to match proposed changes to Council wards. I am confident that the change will further strengthen partnership working by allowing us to better coordinate our resources and so improve the implementation of crime reduction and community safety measures.

Chief Superintendent George Simpson, Divisional Commander

Lothian & Borders Police are now Podcasting!

FOR
POLICE

Podcasting emerged in 2004 and offers a way to provide information in the form of video and audio files. These files can be downloaded and played free of charge on any personal computer or portable MP3-playing device and provide an additional communication channel for the public to access police information.

Podcasts on the **Festive Drink Driving Campaign**, **Crimestoppers** and **Personal Safety** are now available on the Lothian and Borders Police Website at www.lbp.police.ukT.

We hope you find this service useful and informative.

REMEMBER,

If you see a crime being committed contact us on 999 in an emergency when urgent police assistance is required or on telephone 0131 311 3131 to report a crime.

If you have information regarding crime or criminal activity, you can call the independent charity **CRIMESTOPPERS** anonymously on 0800 555111.

Local News

Craigleith

On Christmas Eve, a member of the public had his wallet stolen while on the walkway close to Maidencraig Crescent. However, within half an hour, three 16-year-old male culprits from the Drylaw area were arrested for the offence. There have been a number of housebreakings during the past month. The favoured mode of entry appears to be by smashing the window of a door at the rear of the premises, while targeted property appears to be electrical goods - especially cameras - and jewellery. However, this week a male in his thirties has been charged with four of these housebreakings. Let us now hope for a reduction in the number occurring although please ensure that any gardening items that can be used to break windows are locked away and not left in back gardens. Over recent months, the Blackhall area has suffered from anti-social behaviour by a group of youths, some of who live in the neighbourhood. Following a meeting with local residents, Police visits to homes of suspected members of this group are currently being undertaken with a view to working with the respective families to bring a halt to any further unacceptable behaviour. Meanwhile, plain-clothes officers have been intermittently patrolling the area and monitoring some of the licensed premises. Feedback from residents suggests that the anti-social behaviour has begun to fall away since the start of the new year. Nevertheless, this issue will continue to be closely monitored and more Police home visits are due to be carried out.

PC 3712 Charlie Everitt, CD08 - Community Beat Officer

Dean

As I mentioned in last months newsletter car crime historically increases at this time of the year. In December four cars were broken into and property stolen, in Douglas Gardens, Belford Road, Buckingham terrace and Alva Street. A car was stolen from Dean Park Street and an attempt to steal a vehicle was made in Hawthornbank Lane. It's worth reiterating not to leave anything of value on display within your vehicle when you leave it – remove temptation for the opportunist thief! There have been no reported domestic housebreakings, although two business housebreakings in Stafford Street and William Street. A male was arrested for the break-in in Stafford Street. Vandalism and malicious damage to vehicles increased dramatically with a number of vehicles being damaged in the Dean Park Street/Dean Park Crescent area in one night. These appear to be very random and possibly drunken revellers making there way home from the City centre at night.

PC 2752-A Ian Bryce, CD16 - Community Beat Officer

Stockbridge

I am pleased to report a good arrest of two men for break-ins to shop premises in the city centre, three of which were in the Stockbridge area. There had been a few attempts and break-ins in and around Inverleith and the Stockbridge Colonies, so enquiry will be made to see if these males can be linked to these crimes also. Don't leave doors open or unlocked, or items in your gardens that a thief could use to try and break in. Youth related incidents are down, which could be linked to the bad weather and darker evenings. Off sales premises are being visited regularly to ensure that alcohol is being sold responsibly and to those above the age of 18. Some youths will ask passers-by to "buy drink for them", do not indulge them, as you would be committing an offence in doing so. There have been complaints from residents around Inverleith about inconsiderate and unlawful parking. Please try to show consideration to residents when parking your vehicle for any length of time. I will be monitoring these areas closely along with my traffic colleagues. Do not "double park", park dangerously on street corners or on pavements.

PC 4384 Greig Stephen CD17 – Community Beat Officer

Useful Numbers

Community Beat Officers (CBO's)

Community Beat Officers for the Dean Sector.

Craigeleith: PC Charles Everitt

charles.everitt@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Dean: PC Ian Bryce

ian.bryce@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Stockbridge: PC Greig Stephen

greig.stephen@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Officer in Charge of Dean Sector

Inspector Ian Davis

ian.davis@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Police Telephone Numbers

Force Communication Centre

0131 311 3131

West End Police Station

0131 229 2323

Crimestoppers:

0800 555 111

Environmental Wardens:

0131 469 5328

or email env.wardens@edinburgh.gov.uk



And Finally....

GARDEN WISE

Sowing the seeds for a crime free garden

1. Use a good quality closed shackle padlock on your shed door
2. Coach bolts should be fitted to hinge and hasp plates on your shed. If this is not possible then the screwheads should be burred to prevent them being removed.
3. Protect your shed with a simple to install battery-operated alarm.
4. Padlock and chain valuable items in your shed.
5. Security mark your bicycles, lawnmowers, toolboxes and garden furniture, by engraving, painting or using a security marker pen.
6. Fitting an internal wire mesh grille can protect access via shed windows.
7. A gravel path laid fairly thickly will crunch underfoot and act as a deterrent to the thief.
8. Install security lighting to illuminate your garden.
9. Consider topping your fence or wall with a trellis, which will provide an additional barrier and provide support for climbing plants.

NIP CRIME IN THE BUD

