

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



ISSUE 2 October. 2004

'Working in Partnership for a Safer City'

CITY
WIDE

Communication and Crime...The Way Forward

I would like to touch on two topics this month. Firstly, a brief note about the Newsletter itself. We have already had some favourable feedback regarding its format and content. I have also been made aware though that some local groups would like more information than was given last month. I know that in some parts of the capital contact between officers and city residents has previously been infrequent and sporadic, whilst in others it has been consistently good. The Newsletter aims to get the balance right here. By its very nature the document is short - it is designed to be easily read and E-mailed. This does not mean however that we are trying to be too strict about the type of material we use. The 'Local News' section is capable of being expanded or reduced to cover events in your area and I would encourage all readers to feed back their views on the Newsletter to the local officers shown overleaf. Secondly, crime figures released today show that overall recorded crime is down again and September's crime clear-up rate is up to 44.5%. The fact that we are solving almost 1 in every 2 crimes in a city like this is truly excellent and stands favourable comparison anywhere in the country. I look forward to reporting on future developments.

Allan Shanks, Divisional Commander, City of Edinburgh

HOT
TOPICS



REMEMBER REMEMBER...

This month the Community Safety Topic really is hot, 2,000 degrees centigrade in fact. This is the temperature a simple sparkler reaches, over 15 times the boiling point of water. With this in mind we would like to take the opportunity to remind you of a few simple precautions to take whether attending an organised Bonfire or doing it yourself on November the 5th.

Each year the Emergency Services attend numerous incidents as a result of people not handling fireworks properly. Legislation has been brought in to impose tighter controls on persons permitted to use fireworks and in an effort to reduce the number of incidents involving fireworks. Persons under the age of 18 years are not permitted to purchase or possess fireworks in a public place. Fireworks should not be set off in a public place, i.e. anywhere other than a back garden. It is illegal to sell fireworks individually. The sales of specific types of fireworks are also covered by the legislation with Air bombs and mini-rockets being banned from public sale this year.

We want you to enjoy Bonfire night and urge you to use fireworks safely. Please read the instructions provided on your fireworks before use.

If you require further information on bonfire and firework safety please contact Lothian and Borders Fire Brigade Community Safety Department on 6597254. If you require Crime Prevention Advice please contact the Community Safety Department on 2212050/2090

Local News

Fairmilehead Area 52.

With Halloween and Fireworks on the horizon many residents have voiced their concerns regarding a repeat performance of last year where numerous houses were bombarded with eggs. We too are concerned that this is not repeated this year and, with the help of local shops and supermarkets, we can hopefully make this period as peaceful as possible.

Extra officers will be on duty and principally deployed to patrol last years hot spots. In addition contact will be made with all local shops and supermarkets to ask for their assistance in not selling eggs to youngsters over this period.

Parents can also help by keeping an extra eye on the egg supply within their own home. What might appear to be fun for the kids can be quite intimidating, especially for the elderly.

Recorded crime in September is down. There have been no housebreakings within the Fairmilehead area.

We had 5 incidents of reported vandalism in Swanston Gardens, 2 in Biggar Road, and Colmestone Gate.

There were 5 reports of theft, 4 of which were from motor vehicles. These occurred in Swanston Gardens, Buckstone Terrace, Braid Hills Road, and 2 in Swanston Avenue.

There were 4 assaults reported, 1 serious which occurred at 2315 hours on the 17th in Pentland View.

And finally! In July a member of staff from a shop in Buckstone Terrace was seriously assaulted after a shoplifting. A male has now been traced and charged with the offence.

Useful Numbers

Oxgangs Police Station – 441 1518
E-mail – oxgangs.cbo@lbp.pnn.police.uk

And Finally....

Complaints regarding youths hanging about the streets in the evening and causing annoyance to residents continue to generate a significant number of calls to the police – particularly now that the dark evenings are with us. In the main the behaviour of the youths is not 'criminal', nevertheless the mere presence of 'groups' of youths can be intimidating and I would urge parents/guardians to ensure they know where their children are in the evening and what they are doing. Your help will ensure my officers can focus on tackling those involved in criminal activity in your area.

Alan Grant
Sector Inspector

