

# A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders  
**POLICE**



**ISSUE 16- December  
2005**

## 'Working in Partnership for a Safer City'

CITY  
WIDE

### **Policing the Beat – a Local Success Story**

Earlier this year, 58 Community Beat Officers took to Edinburgh's streets. Their remit? To reinforce police and community links across the capital by re-energising the role of the traditional 'beat bobby'. Last week I had the pleasure of hosting a conference attended by these officers. From Portobello to South Queensferry, officers told me what they had achieved. Amongst other things, I learned of a student safety scheme in the city centre and of immensely successful Problem Solving Partnership work in the Leith area. One officer in the west of the city has even managed to obtain thousands of pounds from a charitable source to revamp a children's play area. There are obviously challenges facing these officers. We are continually looking at shift patterns to optimise the 'contact time' they have with their respective communities. We need to guard against their deployment at special events for the same reason. In overall terms though, I was very impressed by the commitment and enthusiasm these officers have clearly shown as they settle into their new role. I know some of you will have felt the benefits already. I look forward to reporting on more local successes.

**Chief Superintendent Allan Shanks, Divisional Commander**

HOT  
TOPICS

### **The Pantomime with a Special Message**

The fight against Bogus Caller crime remains one of the main priorities of the police in Scotland.

All too often it is the elderly who are most likely to fall victim to the people who commit these crimes.

Our Safer Communities Department has taken the lead role in working with partners to find an innovative and enjoyable way to reach these people. We have now found money to pay for over 700 older people to attend a matinee performance of 'Mother Goose' at the Kings Theatre on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2005. The Chief Constable has been the main contributor with money from the Proceeds of Crime Fund. The Edinburgh Community Safety Partnership, Scottish Power and Scottish Water have also put their hands in their pockets.

The pantomime cast will also highlight Bogus Caller crime advice and Mr Dickson, the Deputy Chief Constable, will address the audience at the end. Audience members will also be provided with 'goody bags' containing personal safety items and useful information.

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The issues mentioned in this letter reflect incidents that took place during the month of November.

Not the best of months with vehicles being the main target of thieves. There were break ins to motor vehicles whilst parked unattended in Bramdean Rise, Winton Gardens, Swanston Green, Swanston Place, Winton Loan, Comiston Springs Avenue, Braid Hills Approach, Oxgangs Road, Pentland Terrace, and Buckstone Circle. Items of property stolen included audio equipment, mobile phones, golf clubs and unfortunately some new Xmas presents.

There was also the theft of 6 x motor vehicles from Marie Curie car park, Pentland Terrace, Buckstone Crescent, Buckstone Close, Buckstone Road, and Braid Hills Drive.

Motor vehicles were a target again, in the form of vandalism, these crimes occurred in Swanston Avenue, Swanston Terrace, Buckstone Shaw, Buckstone Hill, Buckstone Crescent, and Buckstone Bank.

There were two instances of housebreaking. One to the business premises of the Water Board at Buckstone Terrace, with the other to a domestic property at Buckstone Terrace also. Enquiries are continuing with these crimes.

On a more positive note there was an assault and robbery in Comiston Road with a male culprit traced and reported accordingly. There were 6 other incidents of assault at various loci including Buckstone Wood, Buckstone Terrace, Margaret Rose Drive and Buckstone Circle, 5 of these 6 have been solved and persons charged and reported.

Two drink drivers were apprehended, two others reported for driving without any licence and another for a serious dangerous driving charge. The potential consequences of these type of offences are extremely serious, therefore it can only be a positive to have traced these individuals beforehand thus preventing further problems occurring.

Although most of us are aware of the common sense security precautions we should be taking, especially with regard to vehicles I can see no harm repeating some basics :-

1. Don't leave any valuables within your parked vehicle, visible or otherwise, particularly overnight.
2. Ensure vehicles are locked and secured and that any additional security systems are in place and activated.
3. If you see any persons or vehicles who seem out of place or acting at all suspiciously in the area then please contact the Police immediately.
4. Attempt to note descriptions of any persons, or any vehicle registration marks etc.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all the officers and support staff at Oxgangs Police Station to wish all newsletter readers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year when it arrives. I would also like to thank you for all your support throughout the year, and look forward to putting more names to faces in the year to come.

As always please feel free to contact me direct with any issue you may wish to discuss.

**PC 3613-A Graham Harvey Community Beat Officer.**

## Useful Numbers

PC 3613-A Graham Harvey

Oxgangs Police Station,  
270 Oxgangs Road North,  
Edinburgh,  
EH13 9NB

Tel 0131 441 1518, ext 2319

[graham.harvey@lbp.pnn.police.uk](mailto:graham.harvey@lbp.pnn.police.uk)  
[oxgangs.cbo@lbp.pnn.police.uk](mailto:oxgangs.cbo@lbp.pnn.police.uk)

Confidential or anonymous information on all types of criminal activity can be passed to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

## And Finally....

As you will be aware the national Festive Drink Drive Campaign is now under way. Whilst I am delighted that the huge majority of drivers do not drink and drive there is unfortunately still a minority whose behaviour remains unacceptable. The consequences of drink driving are so often tragic with the lives of many people devastated (or worse) as a result of just one accident.

I would urge anyone who is aware of a habitual drink driver in their neighbourhood to pass that information to their Community Beat Officer or contact Crimestoppers.

Your support will ensure the roads are safer for us all.

Have an enjoyable and safe festive period.

Alan Grant, Sector Inspector.

