

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



ISSUE 26 – October 2006

'Working in Partnership for a Safer City'

Safer Scotland Update

CITY

Police officers working across the City centre have confiscated 173 litres of alcohol from young people during a month long initiative. Activities focused on the acquisition and misuse of alcohol by young people and the associated violence and antisocial behaviour that adversely impacts on our communities.

WIDE

The initiative included the monitoring of public transport networks, the use of metal detectors to locate knives or offensive weapons and 168 visits to off sales premises. Innovative 'Alco-dip' test kits also allowed police officers to test liquids in soft drink containers for the presence of alcohol.

The initiative is part of the ongoing Safer Scotland Anti Violence Campaign.

Chief Superintendent Allan Shanks, Divisional Commander

Antisocial Behaviour – Bonfires & Fireworks

If you choose to have fireworks at home, rather than attend an organised event

FOUR
FOUR
FOUR

- Tell neighbours, particularly if they are elderly or have children or pets
- Ensure pets and other animals are safely away from fireworks
- Consider Friday or Saturday as preferable nights for firework celebrations
- Avoid letting off fireworks in unsuitable weather, particularly if the conditions are still and misty or air quality is poor
- Let off your fireworks in an open garden space, as noise bounces off buildings and smoke and pollution can build up in enclosed areas
- If a neighbour complains that you are disturbing them or their pets – be considerate
- After your display, clear up firework fallout and dispose of it safely

In addition, remember the **Fireworks Regulations 2004** creates offences for

- anyone under 18 years to possess fireworks in public
- the use of fireworks at night between 11pm and 7am*

**Between midnight and 7am on the 5th November, Chinese New Year, Diwali and New Year's Eve*

Local News-Fairmilehead Beat 52

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

Crime levels overall for the month were the best they have been for a while, although there were nine incidents of vandalism recorded which I will list below for your information.

Buckstone Gardens - smash house window
Buckstone Loan - smash vehicle lights
Buckstone Crescent – smash novelty house lights
Buckstone Rise – smash patio window
Buckstone Road – smash car window
Buckstone Court – smash car door mirror
Galachlaw Shot – scratch vehicle
East Comiston – smash stair window
Pentland Terrace – kick car door mirror

A further 10 crimes were solved this month including vandalism x 2, assault x 4, breach of the peace x 3, possession of offensive weapon x 1.

On a local level we are embarking on a campaign called 'Stand Up Together' which is a multi-agency approach to tackling low-value quality of life issues such as vandalism, crimes of dishonesty and anti-social behaviour. One of the keys to success of the campaign is gaining assistance from local communities with help in identifying persons responsible for those offences. To offer an alternative to phoning we have established a 'text message hotline' on 07780 651492 where anyone may leave information relating to the above crimes. This may be done anonymously or with contact details left. We are able to offer £10 mobile phone top-up cards as a small reward for any information, which leads to a positive result.

As always feel free to contact me directly via e-mail or otherwise with any issue or advice you require, or if you are able to assist with any of the crimes mentioned.

PC 3613-A Graham Harvey Community Beat Officer

Useful Numbers

PC 3613-A Graham Harvey

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EH13 9NB

Tel 0131 441 1518, ext 2324

graham.harvey@lbp.pnn.police.uk
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....

*In the run up to Halloween and 5th November anti-social youth activity historically increases. Local policing initiatives are being put in place to increase police presence at key times for known hot spots. Where anti-social behaviour is encountered expect the police to respond positively.

*The local Stand Up Together Campaign is already having significant success with a huge increase in the number of vandals being charged.

*It is the sincere intention of local policing to ensure members of the community are reassured and confident to enjoy their neighbourhood without fear.

Alan Grant
Sector Inspector

