

A Division

Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



ISSUE 30 – February 2007

'Working in Partnership for a Safer City'

The Consumption of Alcohol in Public Places

CITY
WIDEN

The City Of Edinburgh Council have invoked powers under the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 to create an Edinburgh wide byelaw prohibiting the consumption of alcohol in public places. *The City of Edinburgh Council Prohibition of Consumption of Alcohol in Designated Public Places Byelaws 2006* became effective on Monday 8th January 2007.

The Byelaw is unique in Scotland, in that the intention is not to completely ban the consumption of alcohol in public places, but to prohibit consumption where it is associated with antisocial behaviour. In practical terms, anyone now consuming alcohol in a public place and acting in an antisocial manner could be asked to desist by the police. It is an offence to refuse to comply and could result in a fine of up to £500.

Chief Superintendent George Simpson, Divisional Commander

Crime Prevention - Satellite Navigation Systems

FOR
YOUR
OWN

Satellite Navigation Systems are becoming increasingly popular with motorists, but also with local criminals, especially if left on show within parked vehicles. To help tackle the problem please consider the following crime prevention advice when leaving your vehicle unattended for any period of time;

- Disconnect the system - taking the electronic route finder with you
- Remove the suction mounted fitting from the windscreen and clean any suction marks, which may indicate the presence of a system
- Note the serial number of your system and keep the information safe
- Security mark each part of your system with an ultraviolet marker
- Register your system free with a tracking agency like www.immobilise.com

For additional advice, please contact the Lothian & Borders Police Safer Communities Department on telephone 0131 221 2073.

Local News

In the absence of a Community Beat Officer for Area 52, I am putting together this newsletter just now as annual leave and other commitments mean the usual end of the month one would be delayed. As it is, the March newsletter will come out in March and contain all the February statistics and information about crime etc in it.

Briefly though, in relation to the first half of February, there have been several vandalisms to motor vehicles in the Buckstone and Margaret Rose areas and vandalism again to the notice board at the Buckstone shops. We also have received several reports about large garden ornaments and some garden furniture being taken from gardens in the Craiglockhart, Oxfangs Rd and Frogston areas. These items have been large and heavy and would have required at least two people to carry them a short distance and subsequently a vehicle to convey them elsewhere. These incidents have sometimes happened in the evening so if you see anything suspicious, please don't hesitate to contact the police.

Finally, a teenager was recently charged with two vandalisms that took place in December.

As you may well be aware from recent press coverage, numerous persons have been reported in all Area's for driving offences. Remember that if your vehicle is uninsured or you don't have a driving licence then the Police will impound your vehicle and the cost will be borne by you.

Police officers keep seeing and stopping drivers on our roads for using mobile telephones whilst driving.

A word of warning, at the moment it is a £30 fine only, but from the 27th of February it will be an Endorsable offence carrying a penalty of a £60 fine and 3 penalty points on your licence.

If you have any information regarding any of the above incidents or any other matter please contact me at the address below.

T/PS 3759-A Lorna Cottier,

Station Sergeant, Oxfangs Police Station, 270 Oxfangs Road North,

Edinburgh, EH13 9NB, Tel 0131 441 1518, ext 2324

oxfangs.cbo@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Useful Numbers

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

Victim Support Helpline
0845 603 9213

The Scottish Helpline for Older Persons
0845 125 9732

Know the Score
(information and advice on drugs)
0800 587 5879

For matters relating to roads, refuse and vegetation overgrowing the pavements contact the council on 0131 200 2000

And Finally....

It is seldom that a crime or offence is committed where someone does not see or hear something that may help either prevent or solve it. We depend on you, the public, assisting us and notifying us promptly if you see or hear anything of a suspicious nature. You can imagine how frustrating it is when we call on a neighbour whilst investigating a break-in to be told that they heard the sound of breaking glass or saw a stranger in the garden but did not want to bother us! Unfortunately this sort of things happens all too often.

If you have any doubts about something or someone please pick up the phone and call the police- we would genuinely rather attend false alarm calls than miss the opportunity of preventing a crime occurring or catching those responsible.

Inspector Wilson
Wester Hailes

