

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



ISSUE 31 – March 2007

'Working in Partnership for a Safer City'

Doorstep Crime – Bogus Callers

There are dozens of doorstep scams that bogus callers might use to gain access to your home - people may even pretend to be from the Council or from a utilities company. These people often work in pairs, with one person distracting you whilst the other is searching through your possessions. Be cautious - don't let anybody into your home unless you are expecting them. Representatives of companies rarely call without an appointment and if there is a real gas or water emergency, police and firefighters are likely to be present. Council or police officers may not always have an appointment, but will have an identification card. Remember,

- ❑ talk to people through the door, rather than opening it when they knock
- ❑ ask questions & keep the door chain on when checking identification cards
- ❑ phone the person's organisation to confirm they are who they say they are
- ❑ make sure your back door is locked before answering your front door - thieves often work in pairs, with one entering through the back while the other knocks at the front

CITY
WATCH

The Safest Dangerous Place in Edinburgh!



Could you spare a couple of hours a week to help keep children stay safe?

The Risk Factory, New Mart Road, Edinburgh, is an exciting new Centre where children learn how to stay safe and out of danger – whether at home or on the street. We work closely with our partners at Lothian & Borders Police and Lothian & Borders Fire & Rescue Service and our team of volunteers receive full training, enabling them to confidently pass on key safety messages to children.

We're now heading towards our busiest time, with lots of schools booked in for April, May and June and we need more volunteers NOW!

If you are keen, reliable and have good communication skills, we'd love to hear from you. Interested? Please contact Jess Wade (Volunteer Co-ordinator) on 0131 455 8932 or email jess.wade@edinburgh.gov.uk

For more information about The Risk Factory please visit our website: www.theriskfactory.org

FOR
FOCUS

Local News

As you may be aware, there are boundary changes coming into place on 1st April 2006 that means that the area we currently know as Area 52 will change. St Leonards Police Station will cover the area around the Braid Hills golf course, including Braid Mount, Bramdean Rise and Braid Farm Road, whilst Buckstone, Camus and Swanston remain with Oxfords. The new Community Beat Officer for the Braids area will be PC Michael Brooks 3100 and he will contact those co-ordinators in his area when he takes over in April. The new CBO for the rest of PO52 will be PC Kenny Welsh 3279 who will introduce himself properly in the April newsletter.

During the night of 02/02/07, two large stone planters were stolen from a front garden in Biggar Road. They were dislodged from the ground and would have had to be dragged from the locus by at least two people and a vehicle required to transport them. A similar incident also occurred in Colinton Rd the previous night and to date, the items have not been traced.

On 02/02/07, following a call re youth disorder in Buckstone Court, a male was arrested for Breach of the Peace. Another youth was arrested that night for disorderly behaviour in Buckstone Terrace.

Between 04/02/07 and 05/02/07, two VW Golf motor vehicles were broken into. One was parked in Buckstone Drive, the other in East Caiystane Place. Both had attempts made on forcing the lock or door, then a window smashed. Nothing was stolen.

On 05/02/07 0130 hrs, an attempt was made to break in to a garage lock up in Buckstone Avenue. The two culprits were disturbed but not traced. One was described as aged 22 – 29 years and wearing a workman type hi-viz sleeveless jacket. There was a further attempt to a garage in Braid Hills Rd on 15/02/07.

Three vandalisms were reported in the area, one was in Buckstone Wood when a Christmas tree was thrown on car, and another when an empty bottle was thrown on a conservatory roof in Queen Margaret Close. The third incident was the notice board in Buckstone Terrace again being targeted and the glass smashed.

On 17/02/07, a car was broken into whilst parked in Braid Hills Approach and a mobile phone stolen from within.

There were two serious and two minor assaults in the area in February, all involving groups of youths. Positive lines of enquiry are being followed for three, and two youths have appeared at Edinburgh Sheriff Court in relation to the other.

Finally, an orange Yuken Enduro pedal cycle was stolen from a garden in Buckstone Road, between 2000-2100 on 14/02/07.

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, Oxfords Police Station, 270 Oxfords Road North,
Edinburgh, EH13 9NB, Tel 0131 441 1518, ext 2324

oxgangs.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....



Lothian and Borders Fire and Rescue are committed to reducing fires in the home. One of the many services they offer is the supply and fitting of a free fire alarm to all properties. The alarm will be fitted by local fire fighters and has a 10 year battery fitted. The fire fighters will also give your house a free home safety check.

I would encourage anyone interested to contact their local fire station.

Inspector Sue Wilson
Oxgangs Police Station

