

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News



ISSUE 49 – September
2008

'Work With Us'

CITY
WIDE

Divisional Commanders Message

August was a challenging month for Lothian & Borders Police with the Edinburgh Festival celebrations and commencement of the new football season. The police service is often pulled in many directions by the demands placed upon us however, as ever, we continue to provide daily a high level of service to the public across the city.

With Freshers Week approaching, officers continue to maintain established links with the Universities, providing information to new students on a variety of issues including personal safety, lifestyle and home security.

In addition, as we approach Autumn and subsequent darker nights, in terms of home security, I would encourage vigilance and if anyone is seen acting suspiciously, contact your local police station.

Colin Campbell Divisional Commander

FOR
YOUR

Unfortunately, at this time of year, break-ins to garden sheds become more common. Many criminals consider this type of crime to be low risk, as they don't have to force entry to your home. People store bikes, power tools and expensive gardening equipment in their sheds making them very attractive targets for criminals.

The good news is that there is a lot you can do to outsmart garden thieves. A few simple solutions can make all the difference to the security of your garden. Firstly is your shed in a good state of repair?

- The hinges and any hasps should be attached using coach bolts rather than screws, and use a good quality closed shackle padlock.
- Shed window – securely fit a grille over it; either internally or externally.
- Garden forks, spades, etc. can all be used as tools to try and force entry to your house. Secure them together with a length of chain through the handles secured by a padlock. Don't leave tools lying around the garden and make sure ladders are kept secure.
- Bikes - use securely fixed ground anchors and good quality bike locks to secure them. These can also be used for lawnmowers etc, or again secure them together.
- Security mark tools, lawnmowers, toolboxes and garden furniture, by engraving, painting or using a security marker pen. Mark them with your surname, house number and postcode.
- Install security lighting.
- Fit a shed alarm. These only cost a few pounds and can be bought from most DIY store.

Should you require any further security advice contact your local Neighbourhood Crime Prevention Officer.

Local News

Welcome to the September issue of the Fairmilehead Community Newsletter

There is some disappointing news in the statistics with an increase again in the thefts & attempted thefts from motor vehicles.

There were a total of 21 crimes/offences committed in August.

THEFT

4 properties were broken into; Swanston Avenue, Oxfangs Road, Buckstone Gate and Buckstone Terrace. Entry was gained either by a partially open window or breaking a window.

4 vehicles had windows smashed in Biggar Rd, Lothianburn golf course, Frogston Terrace, Frogston Road West, only 2 had property stolen.

4 vehicles had property stolen in Mounthooley, Buckstone Gate, Oxfangs Road and Frogston Road West. Number plates were stolen from 3 vehicles and property taken from the other.

A shop in Buckstone Terrace has some property stolen and further enquiry is being made into the circumstances.

Can I remind everyone to secure their property whether it be a house, a car, or anything else they own. By taking this simple precaution some of the above crimes/offences might not have occurred.

VANDALISM

4 vehicles had bodywork scratched overnight in Buckstone Howe, Buckstone Loan, Biggar Road & Caiystane Crescent. 1 vehicle had its window smashed in Buckstone Loan.

OTHER OFFENCES

A person was assaulted in Fairmile Park and a male exposed himself at the ATS (traffic lights) Biggar Road & Comiston Road.

Finally a person has been reported for Road Traffic Offences.

Can I ask everyone if they see anything suspicious, to contact the police.

If you wish to contact me with regards to any issues raised, advice or any other matters please do not hesitate to contact myself at the address below.

PC 3279A Kenneth Welsh

Useful Numbers

PC 3279A Kenneth Welsh
Community Beat Officer

Oxgangs Police Station
270 Oxgangs Road North
Edinburgh
0131 441 1518

kenneth.welsh@lbp.pnn.police.uk

And Finally....

Now that summer is over different issues and problems face us. This marks the start of a very busy period for the Police Service and the other emergency services. Bon Fire Night with its many associated hazards. The Christmas period follows which raises a number of issues in terms of personal safety and property security.

I would encourage the Fairmilehead community to look after itself and report all suspicious activities and individuals no matter how trivial it may appear. In that way the Police can take steps to prevent crime before victims are created. If you would like to highlight local issues please do not hesitate and contact us on the numbers opposite.

Sue Wilson
Inspector.

