

# A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders  
**POLICE**



ISSUE 64–December 2009

## 'Work With Us'

### Divisional Commanders Message

CITY  
WIDE

With the festive season now firmly upon us, our winter policing initiatives are now up and running throughout the capital. We have a range of activities going on right across Edinburgh, including a number of extra patrols in the busiest hotspots – from the airport to our outlying shopping centres. We are also hoping to replicate the success of previous years with our city centre policing operation, Astrodome, which encompasses a huge range of partner activities all designed around keeping Edinburgh a safe place to visit, shop, and socialise in.

Lothian and Borders Police is committed to making sure you enjoy the festive season safely, and we have a range of safety advice that we are keen to share with you. Your local Community Beat Officer can offer valuable guidance on how to keep yourself, your family, and your property safe, and are easily contactable through the numbers on the back page of this newsletter.

Finally it is with great regret that I announce that I am leaving 'A' Division early in the new year, and I will take over the Safer Communities Division at Force Headquarters. I have thoroughly enjoyed being 'A' Division Commander for the past year or so, it has been both a huge challenge and a privilege. Chief Supt Gillian Imery will take over and I wish her every success for the future.

Chief Superintendent Colin Campbell

### Before You Start Drinking, Get Thinking

December is traditionally a time for nights out to celebrate the end of a hard year and many of those attending will drink more alcohol than they would normally.

Top Tips For A Safe Night Out

1. **Don't drink and drive.** Even small amounts of alcohol adversely affect reaction times. You could be arrested and lose your driving license or worse **you could lose your life or be responsible for the death of someone else.**
2. **Know how you are getting home.** Know where and when the night buses leave or arrange to get picked up from somewhere central and safe. Have a reliable taxi number in your mobile as Private Hire cars are not allowed to pick up passengers who have not pre-booked. Never be tempted to get into a car you have not pre booked as you don't know what you are getting into.
3. **Don't accept drinks from strangers** and never leave your drink unattended - it's easy for someone to put something in it.
4. **Alcohol can make you lose your inhibitions,** make you feel attractive and funny but when you're drunk you are also at your most vulnerable. You could become a target for violence and unwanted attention, so **drink responsibly.**
5. **Look after your property.** Don't leave your bag over the back of your chair and keep wallets and purses close to your body to make it more difficult for thieves. Be alert to sneak thieves in pubs, clubs and restaurant.
6. **Don't get into petty arguments** in the pub or on the street – being drunk often makes people more aggressive than usual and arguments can lead to violence.

HOT  
TOPICS

Welcome to the December issue of the Fairmilehead Community Newsletter.

Here are the recorded crime figures for November and the good news is they have fallen from the summer to the lowest level since February. 7 out of the 12 crimes reported has resulted in reports being submitted.

## **Crimes of dishonesty**

3 thefts occurred in Winton Loan, Biggar Road and Buckstone Terrace and a fraud occurred in Swanston Drive.

2 of the crimes again involved vehicles where property was stolen from within and it appears the owners are leaving property in full inviting their vehicle to be broken into.

## **Crimes of violence**

There were 3 assaults which occurred in Pentland View which are all related to 1 incident and a person has been reported for these crimes.

## **Criminal damage**

There are 2 reports of property being damaged in Pentland View (related to the above incident) and Caiystane Crescent

## **Crimes of disorder**

There was 1 report of disorderly conduct in Buckstone Drive and a person has been reported for this.

Finally, 1 person has been reported for being in possession of illegal substance in Caiystane Gardens.

During November the weather has proved extremely wet which has seen an increase in the activities of bogus workman, please ensure you take all the correct precautions and don't get caught out.

If anyone feels concerned about any of the information in this letter and wish to have crime prevention advice, please do not hesitate to contact myself. I am a trained Crime prevention officer for domestic property and would be delighted to carry out a survey on your property.

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](mailto:kenneth.welsh@lbp.pnn.police.uk)

## And Finally....

With the onset of winter and the decline in weather. I wish to point a potential problem.

The inconsiderate parking by drivers who are partially or completely parking on the foot path.

Firstly, the driver is committing an offence by doing so.

Secondly, they are endangering lives of pedestrian by forcing them to walk on the road.

Thirdly, they are also preventing the council in carrying out their work in clear the pavements during frosty and/or snowy conditions.

The owner/driver of the vehicles concerned should consider the following: they are committing a minor road traffic offence and also they leave themselves open to a possible civil action if someone is injured walking on pavements which have not been treated because the small mechanical spreaders had to go onto the road instead.



**CRIMESTOPPERS** 0800 555 111