

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



ISSUE 54 – February 2009

‘Work With Us’

Divisional Commanders Message

This month I was pleased to attend the launch of the Edinburgh Community Safety Partnership ‘Take Control’ strategy- a joint venture between Lothian and Borders Police, Edinburgh City Council, and voluntary organisations to tackle the issue of hate crime. The publicity surrounding the launch highlighted the many varied sites across the city where anyone who has been a victim of hate crime can report it without having to engage directly with the police, which we understand can sometimes be difficult to do. Hate crime takes on a variety of different forms, and I believe education is key to eradicating this type of emotive and socially damaging crime. A list of all the remote reporting sites is available from our website – www.lbp.police.uk.

The lighter nights will soon be coming in, and as such we would ask you to take the necessary precaution to ensure your property is safe. Over the winter months we have seen a sustained reduction in the overall number of recorded crimes, and our solvency rate is up 3% through November, December, and January. While this is encouraging, we must continue to focus on prevention and encourage vigilance by everyone all year round to make sure we don’t give criminals any opportunities to act.

Chief Superintendent Colin Campbell

CITY
WIDE

In recent months there has been a notable rise in the number of incidents of vehicles being stolen with their true key.

Vehicles registered after 1996 (P registered) have been fitted with immobilisers as standard, making them virtually impossible to steal without the key. A thief wishing to steal a newer car generally has to get his hands on the key. Car keys are known to have been stolen from the workplace, the gym, schools and house parties. [Are your car keys safe?](#)

Many criminals wishing to steal cars break into houses with the sole intention of stealing car keys making it easy to steal your car from the driveway or the street outside. Cars have also been known to disappear from petrol stations when drivers leave keys in the ignition when paying for fuel.

You can limit the chances of this happening to you by following this advice:

- If you have a garage, use it to store your vehicle.
- Ensure your home security is up to scratch. Use your locks and alarm system.
- Do not leave your car keys near the door of your house.
- Do not use an obvious key box/rack to store keys.
- Take your car keys to your bedroom with you at night.
- Ensure your spare car key is in a safe, secure place.
- Never ever leave your car keys in your ignition or hidden within your car.

HOT
HOT
SCOT-OS

Local News

Welcome to the February issue of the Fairmilehead Community News Letter

There were 16 crime/offences recorded for January, which is a slight increase on the previous month.

There has been a dramatic increase in thefts with a slight decrease in damage to property.

Theft

There were 8 crimes involving theft from vehicles, which occurred all parts of Fairmilehead area.

Unfortunately some owners of the vehicles concern are NOT removing for example, Satellite Navigation systems, thus allowing the vehicle to be an easy target.

On a positive note there were several vehicle thefts occurred in the Oxfangs sector which are currently have a positive line of enquiry.

There were 2 houses broken into and some copper piping was stolen

A person has been reported to the procurator Fiscal for one of the break-ins.

Vandalism

There were 3 vehicles damaged within the Fairmilehead, scratching the bodywork, smashing a light cluster and smashing a window.

Other Offences

There was 1 offence under the communications act.

On a positive note there area several crimes /offences which have been committed over the past few months which have a positive line of enquiry.

Finally, it was recently reported by the Evening News, that Oxfangs Sector had the highest solvency rate in the City of Edinburgh for vehicle car crime. This is due to the hard work of the officers that work from the station.

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....

For the information of parents with children who attend Firrhill High School.

Lothian and Borders Police have expanded the role of school liaison officer to more schools within the City of Edinburgh Council area.

An officer has been allocated to this position.

His name is PC 4793A James Gilanders.

PC Gilanders has a wealth of experience as a police officer having transferred from the Metropolitan Police to L & B. In addition PC Gilanders has worked at Oxgangs for several years and knows the area well.

Anyone who wishes to contact PC Gilanders can do so at the school during school hours, I believe his office is the old nurses room or via telephone through the school or e-mail James.gilanders@lbp.pnn.police.uk

