

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News



ISSUE 55–March 2009

'Work With Us'

Divisional Commanders Message

CITY
WIDE

The month of February saw Lothian and Borders Police conduct a large scale, pre-planned operation called Operation Deliver. It's purpose was to target drug dealers in our communities within the city. Officers raided addresses mainly in the east and south of Edinburgh over two days where people were suspected of dealing in illegal drugs and committing crime. The initial stages were extremely successful with several suspects now facing trial. Drugs are a menace to our society, and drug dealers want to profit from the misery of others in return for cash. Local communities are not however powerless to stop this happening and indeed are often the catalyst for police action by providing information. If you have any information you think could help us stop the scourge of drugs please do let us know – your Community Beat Officer is never far away, and will deal with any information with complete confidentiality. People can also call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

The end of this month signals the end of the financial year, and the collation of our crime statistics. Early indications point to a decrease in vandalisms, youth calls, and motor vehicle thefts. This is excellent news, and our Neighbourhood Action Units and all our community officers have played a significant part in that. I'm sure you are aware policing in Edinburgh is very much centred on partnership working, and these results demonstrate the importance of working together in the city.

Chief Superintendent Colin Campbell

Garden Shed Crime

HOT
TOPICS

Many of you take measures to protect your home but don't give a thought to your bicycle, lawnmower, hedge trimmer, power tools and other valuable gardening implements lying out in a rickety old shed. Criminals consider this type of crime to be low risk/high return as they don't have to force entry to your home and the goods they can get there are as valuable as anything in your house. The good news is there is a lot you can do to prevent it :

- Any boundary fence/wall at your house should be built in such a way that it is difficult to climb.
- Use a good quality closed shackle padlock on your shed door and the hasp and door hinges should be attached using coach bolts rather than screws to prevent simple removal.
- You should keep valuable items in the house but if they must stay in the shed, chain/lock them up.
- Lace a chain through the handles of garden forks, spades, bicycles etc. This will prevent a thief from being able to remove single items. **Remember tools from your shed can be used to force entry to your house.**
- Security mark your bicycles, lawnmowers, toolboxes and garden furniture, by engraving, painting or using a security marker pen.
- Fit an internal wire mesh grille to protect your shed window.

Local News

Welcome to the March issue of the Fairmilehead community news letter.

There is good news in the letter with only 8 crimes recorded in February and 12 crimes recorded in March.

Crimes of dishonesty

There were 9 crimes of dishonesty -

A break-in to the greenkeeper's shed at Mortonhall Golf course but nothing was stolen.

In Frogston Road West a male was found within a house there by the occupants but made good his escape. A positive line of enquiry is currently being followed.

A pedal cycle was stolen from the garden of a property in Pentland View.

A container was broken into Caiystane Hill at Caiystane Avenue and a wacker plate stolen.

Another attempt was made to break-in to the containers at Caiystane View.

An attempt was made to break-in to a garage in Pentland Drive.

Two cars were broken into overnight in Buckstone Road and Hill

Finally, a person has been reported for theft after stealing from a house in Caiystane Hill.

Crimes of violence

There were 2 assaults which occurred at the Marie Curie Hospice, and a positive line of enquiry is being followed.

A serious assault occurred in Fairmile Park but again a positive line of enquiry is being followed.

Crimes of damage against property

A front windscreen of a car was smashed in Ogangs Road. Two cars have had a corrosive liquid poured over them in the Buckstone area. A car window was smashed in East Camus Road.

Crimes of Disorder

A young girl whilst walking home from school was approached by 2 males. These males have been identified and further enquiry is being made.

Other Crimes or Offences

Two people have been reported for road traffic offences and an incident of racial graffiti took place in Buckstone.

Can I take this opportunity to remind everyone to be vigilant and to report anything suspicious.

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....

March / April traditionally sees an increase in bogus callers. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you to ask for and **take time** to check the identification of anyone wishing to gain entry to your house prior to allowing them access. Should you let anyone in be sure to secure the door to prevent others entering unnoticed. Remain with your 'visitor' at all times. Be alert to distraction tactics such as operating lights or taps in different rooms as it's likely that this will be their opportunity to steal your property.

If you're unsure of anyone don't let him or her in! Preferably use tradesmen who have been recommended to you.

CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111

