

# A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders  
**POLICE**



ISSUE 63–November 2009

## 'Work With Us'

### Divisional Commanders Message

CITY  
WIDE

The Division is currently busy planning for the impending festive season, and the numerous initiatives that will be going on across Edinburgh. Crimes such as shoplifting, anti social behaviour, and drink related violence will be targeted, to name but a few. 'A' Division Officers are dedicated to making sure Edinburgh's population are kept safe and crime rates remain low throughout the festive period.

Lothian and Borders Police are supporting a new 'no cold calling' zone that launches on 1<sup>st</sup> December in the Howdenhall area of the city. The scheme, led by the City of Edinburgh Council's Trading Standards officers, aims to give householders the confidence to say no to cold callers. This reduces the likelihood of residents becoming victims of bogus callers. No Cold Calling Zones are set up in residential areas, usually one or two streets or a small cluster of houses. Zones are identified by street signs attached to lamp posts and door stickers, telling cold callers they are not welcome. Two No Cold Calling Zones currently exist in Edinburgh, based in Cramond and Coillesdene. For more information on the scheme, contact City of Edinburgh Council Trading Standards on 0131 529 3030.

Chief Superintendent Colin Campbell

### Top Tips to Avoid Identity Theft

HOT  
TOPICS

- Fraudsters who target people to assume their identity find any piece of information relating to their victim useful. Even the most mundane of documents or details can help the fraudster assume an innocent person's identity:
- Treat your personal details as 'confidential' - don't give them away or store them in a place where they can be compromised.
- If you are contacted by telephone, fax, post, email, or in person and asked for details such as your date of birth, mother's maiden name, PIN number or security password. Your bank will never contact you to verify your details in this way.
- Avoid using your mother's maiden name as a security password - it may be easily discovered. Where possible, try not to use the same password for different accounts.
- Destroy documents showing your name, address or other details especially bank statements, utility bills, credit and debit card receipts, pre-filled application forms and junk mail.
- When paying by plastic card, don't let your card go out of sight. Your account details could be copied (or 'skimmed') from the magnetic strip on the card and re-used without your permission.
- Check your bank/credit card statements promptly and report any transactions you don't recognise to your card issuer.
- Make sure you formally close any accounts you no longer require. A fraudster could reactivate mail order or credit card account you've not used for a while, especially if they are registered at an old address.
- Keep identity documents such as your driving licence, passport, birth & marriage certificates in a safe place.

Welcome to the October issue of the Fairmilehead neighbourhood watch newsletter during the month of October there were 14 crimes recorded in the area.

## **Criminal damage to property**

In Pentland View, Caiystane Avenue, Frogston Road West and Queen Margaret Close there was damaged caused, 2 had windows smashed and a bus shelter was damaged. Finally all the windows within a greenhouse were smashed by person/s unknown throwing a for sale sign into the garden.

In Comiston Spring Avenue and Buckstone Loan, there were 3 vehicles damaged by smashing a window, denting the bodywork and a corrosive substance was poured over the bodywork of the third.

## **Crimes of dishonesty**

There were 3 crimes committed in Caiystane View, Margaret Rose Drive and Buckstone Loan, property was stolen from a secure container, a sat nav was stolen from a parked vehicle and money was stolen from a house.

## **Other crime or offences**

In Swanston Avenue a vehicle was stopped for road traffic offences which resulted in a person being reported to the Procurator Fiscal for 3 offences.

Finally there was a miscellaneous offence in Frogston Terrace.

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.

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)**

[www.securedbydesign.com](http://www.securedbydesign.com)

## And Finally....

With the approach of Christmas, the opportunist thief will be looking for a quick steal. Can I remind all owner/occupiers of property be vigilant and don't leave their Christmas gifts in full view under the tree. This is only an invite to the unwanted guest.

Likewise it will be the start of the Christmas party season; with the over indulgence of alcohol personal safety becomes an issue.

The drink drive campaign will commence in the beginning of December with high profile publicity campaign and extra attention being given by all officers.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year when it comes.

**Inspector Keith Seaton**  
**Oxgangs**



**CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111**