

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



ISSUE 65 –January 2010

'Work With Us'

Divisional Commanders Message



A New Year brings with it a new Commander, and I am delighted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you. After 18 months in charge of the Safer Communities Department at Headquarters, I am taking over as the Divisional Commander of Edinburgh. During my 23 years with Lothian and Borders Police, I have enjoyed a range of different posts, both in uniform and CID duties, and have previously worked at Howdenhall, St Leonard's, Gayfield, and Leith police stations in the city, as well as postings in Mid, East and West Lothian. I have also been seconded to the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency, based in Strathclyde, for over three years.

I am really looking forward to getting out and about in the city to see for myself the extent of community engagement that is going on every day at a local level.

Community Beat Officers are crucial to achieving our aim of understanding and addressing local issues, and I am keen to push ahead with the emphasis on prevention and problem solving approaches.

As in previous years, Edinburgh has hosted a wide range of events over the festive period, and police officers and staff have worked hard to keep crime levels low and anti-social behaviour to a minimum. The extensive planning for the policing of the Hogmanay celebrations paid off again this year, with the low level of arrests reflecting the good natured atmosphere and friendly relationship between the public and the police.

I look forward to contributing to the policing of this diverse and dynamic city, and maintaining its high attraction as a safe place to live, work and visit.

Chief Supt Gill Imery, 'A' Division Commander

CITY
WIDE

Theft Of Your Christmas Presents

Favourite items for thieves are gadgets like mobile phones, laptops, MP3 players and satellite navigation systems.

I'm sure many of you were lucky enough to get one of these items for Christmas.

They are most vulnerable when on view in your car so don't leave luggage or valuables on display. Even an old coat or cigarette packet can be a temptation for someone to smash and grab. Car thieves steal first and think about value later. Take valuables with you or lock them in the boot out of sight. Don't be tempted to hide things under the seats or leave them in the glove box.

Thieves are innovative and latest scams include:

- Using a mobile phone with Bluetooth capability to scan your vehicle or home for any items you may have with Bluetooth enabled, then breaking in and helping themselves. So even though you have gone to the trouble to lock your valuables in the boot, they can be detected. **DISABLE YOUR BLUETOOTH BEFORE YOU LEAVE.**
- Satellite Navigation systems are highly sought after and criminals look for the sucker mark that is left on the inside of the windscreen when it is removed, then break in on the off chance that you've hidden the unit in the car. **CLEAN THE TELL TALE MARK AND TAKE YOUR SAT NAV WITH YOU.**

And finally...

- Picture if you will, a snowy or frosty winter morning in January. You leave the house to find your car windows frozen so you open up, turn on the engine and fire up the heater. This may take a while so you retire to the house to finish your cup of coffee. When you return to the car, it's not there!

HOT
TOPICS

Welcome to the January issue of the Fairmilehead Community Newsletter. Here are the recorded crimes and offences which have been reported in the area.

First of all my I wish everyone a happy and prosperous New Year.

CRIMES OF VIOLENCE

There have 5 crimes of violence committed in the area Pentland View, Buckstone Way, Buckstone Terrace and Comiston Spring Avenue.

The good news is 3 of the crimes have been solved with further enquiry being made into named suspects with regards to Comiston Spring Avenue and good descriptions for the suspects at Buckstone Terrace.

Please be careful when withdrawing money as one of the crimes involved an ATM. Be aware of your surroundings and the people nearby, shield your PIN and report anything suspicious to the bank.

CRIMES OF DISHONESTY

There were 3 crimes of dishonesty committed at Buckstone Way, Lothianburn Golf Club and Buckstone Close.

Again 2 of the crimes have suspects which are being enquired into.

One crime involves the internet where it can be very easy to become a victim, please try and carry out as many checks as possible prior to releasing either money or the goods. There even scams when Paypal is used.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

There were 4 incidents of criminal damage in Buckstone Road, Pentland View, Caiystane Gardens and Oxgangs Road where either cars or property have been damaged.

These types of crimes/offences are difficult to prevent and if all possible measures have been taking, there is not a great deal more that can be done.

Finally, a male has recently been captured for break-in to vehicles in the Oxgangs area who we suspect has committed numerous crimes throughout the Oxgangs sector. He is currently on remand and we do not anticipate he will be released soon.

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

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Community Beat Officer

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And Finally....

The winter weather has arrived with a vengeance and I would urge every motorist to ensure their vehicle is properly prepared for all journeys. Tyres in good condition and inflated to the correct pressure are crucial to controlling and stopping the vehicle, particularly in adverse road conditions. Allow extra time for your journey and if the road conditions are obviously dangerous then consider whether your journey is really necessary. I am pleased to report our local injury road crash statistics are very good and like myself you will want that to continue. Stay safe.



CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111