

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News



ISSUE 67 –March 2010

'Work With Us'

Divisional Commanders Message



CITY
WIDE

This month has seen the introduction of Safer Neighbourhood Teams in the South and East of the city, which is further evidence of our strong commitment to community policing. I am determined to build on the current levels of community engagement at a local level by improving our approach to identifying and prioritising issues, and addressing local concerns affecting our communities. I look forward to reporting on the progress of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams and am confident they will continue to uphold the proud traditions of responsive community policing within the city of Edinburgh.

Indeed, the value of meaningful community engagement and the importance of the role played by our Community Police Officers have been demonstrated on a number of occasions in recent weeks. High profile public events, for example the recent attempted march by members of the Scottish Defence League and counter-demonstration by Scotland United Against Facism, and serious operational incidents, such as the shooting at Jock's Lodge, continue to place varying demands on our policing service. I have been impressed and encouraged by the excellent work carried out to prepare for and respond to these demands, always keeping the safety and well being of our communities uppermost in our minds.

Chief Supt Gill Imery, A Division Commander

LEGAL HIGH SUPPLY

HOT
TOPICS

Legal Highs are a very hot topic in the national press at the moment. They are substances made from herbs, chemicals and extracts which imitate the effects of some illegal drugs such as LSD and ecstasy but are not controlled by the Misuse of Drugs or Medicines Acts.

Rather than being labelled as recreational drugs, many of these products are badged up as everyday products such as alloy wheel cleaner. The Legal High substance known as Mephedrone is regularly sold as plant food.

Little is known about the long-term effects of these substances due to the short history of human consumption but it should be noted that just because they are sold legally, it does not mean they are safe to use. There is anecdotal evidence available to suggest that use of Legal Highs has had detrimental effects on the health and well being of users.

Parents should be aware that due to recent press coverage and the potential risks involved with ingesting Legal Highs, many shops in Edinburgh that were retailing these substances have stopped selling products containing Mephedrone and other Legal Highs. This has served to increase user hype and some young people have taken to using their parent's or older siblings credit cards for purchasing Legal Highs online where they are more readily available and cheaper.

More information on Legal Highs can be found at:
www.crew2000.org.uk and www.talktofrank.com

Welcome to the March edition of the Fairmilehead Newsletter, which contains the crimes and offences reported in March.

There were a total of 20 reports made for the month, which is an increase on the previous 2 months.

Crimes of Dishonesty

There were 9 crimes of dishonesty, 6 vehicles were either broken into or entered and property stolen in Biggar Road, Buckstone Loan East, Buckstone Circle and 3 in Caiyside.

Please remove all property from view as this only encourages theft.

2 Houses in Buckstone Drive and Swanston Avenue were entered either by force or insecurity where property was stolen.

Please do not leave keys or other important items in view or in a position where they can be "fished" out.

A handbag was stolen from a business property in Buckstone Terrace whilst left unattended.

Please secure all your personal belongs safely to prevent theft occurring.

Criminal damage to Property

A car was damaged and a window was smashed in Buckstone Shaw and electricity sub station in Buckstone Circle had racial grafitti sprayed on a wall.

Other crimes or Offences

There were 8 crimes/offences committed at various locations in the area. One in particular I wish to highlight, on 20th March a Lothian bus was travelling along Buckstone Terrace near to the junction with Buckstone Road when a window was smashed. This is a dangerous act which can result in serious injury.

Finally, numerous incidents have occurred in Buckstone Shaw over the past few months involving damage to property and other crimes. I can now report a male has been caught for these crimes and is subject of a report to the Procurator Fiscal.

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....

During April there has been a noticeable increase in the break-in of property whether it be during the day or night some simple precautions may prevent you becoming a victim of crime.

Lock all doors and windows prior to leaving for work or going to bed, if you wish to leave a window open for ventilation, think about how a thief would try to enter your property.

For further information just click onto the link provided in useful numbers which will provide you with a wealth of information.

Alternatively, contact your local community beat officer at Oxgangs Police Station and arrange for a crime prevention survey.

Inspector Murray Dykes

