

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News



ISSUE 51 – November
2008

‘Work With Us’

Divisional Commanders Message

CITY

October marked the first ever Leith ‘week of action’, a joint partnership initiative which proved incredibly successful. Lothian and Borders Police linked in with the City Council, the Fire and Rescue Service, Neighbourhood Watch groups and local residents. As well as tackling crime at a local level head-on, our officers were able to build links with the local community and develop an ongoing mutually beneficial relationship. The scheme has the potential to be rolled out in other areas as time goes on.

WIDE

The darker nights have brought their own challenges over the past month. In the run-up to Halloween and Fireworks night, A Division officers worked extremely hard to ensure residents enjoyed these events safely. We focused on targeting seasonal anti social behaviour and imparting vital safety advice.

Lothian and Borders Police have also been supporting a group of local nightclubs with their ‘Unight’ scheme, which aims to combat crime and anti social behaviour. New statistics released show crime has dropped by a fifth in the year since it was launched. These are encouraging figures and great news for anyone who wants to enjoy Edinburgh’s vibrant nightlife.

Chief Superintendent Colin Campbell

Door Step Crime

HOT
TOPICS

At any time of year they could arrive on your doorstep, cold callers or bogus callers, call them what you may.

They take on many faces pretending to be from a utility company, charity collector, the ‘plumber’ working next door, selling over priced goods, using hard selling techniques or overcharging for work, they all want one thing; your money, and will try many ways to get it.

It is important to take some simple precautions so that such people do not take advantage of yourself or others.

- **What do these people look like?** They are plausible people, dressing and talking in such a way to inspire confidence in you to ‘trust’ them. Do not get taken in.
- **Who is at risk and when?** Many bogus callers will call during the day – times that you would expect trades people and service providers to call. Charity collectors will call at various times.
- **Bogus Callers are always inventing new ways of getting into people's homes to steal valuables or money.** If you do not know or expect a caller, do not let them into your home.
- **What can you do?** Always check who is at your door before you open it. If you have a door chain use it.
- **An expected a caller.** Check they are genuine, they will show you ID and you can contact the company; using the phone book to get the company telephone number to confirm the callers identity.
- **Doorstep workman.** Don't let any casual caller do work on your property, for example roofing, driveway or gardening work.
- **Be aware.** Be careful yourself and lookout for neighbours, if suspicious people are in the area, contact the police.

Local News

This is the November edition of your monthly newsletter.

There were 48 reported crimes in respect of your ward for the month of October 2008.



DOMESTIC HOUSEBREAKING

There were four domestic housebreakings and two attempted housebreakings.

On the 13th an attempt was made to enter a flat at Bruntsfield Gardens by trying to force the front door. No entry was gained.

On the 29th a flat at Leamington Terrace was entered by slipping the lock and stealing from within. On the same day a flat at Bruntsfield Avenue was also entered by slipping the lock. A 26 year old male has been reported for this crime.

On the 30th an attempt was made to enter a flat at Polwarth Terrace by trying to raise the kitchen window. No entry was gained.

Overnight between the 30-31st premises at Hartington Place were entered by forcing open the ground floor window and property stolen.

On the 31st a property at Merchiston Avenue was entered by forcing the front door. A 29 year old male has been reported for this crime.

BUSINESS HOUSEBREAKING

There was one business break-in this month.

Overnight between the 30-31st premises at Viewforth were entered by smashing a window and entering. Cash was stolen from within.

THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

There was one theft of a motor vehicle.

On the 3rd a Pegasus motor scooter parked in Viewforth Gardens was stolen.

VEHICLE CRIME

On the 13th a Volkswagen motor car parked in Polwarth Terrace was entered by unknown means and golf clubs stolen. The golf clubs have been recovered.

REPORTS/ARRESTS

A 38 year old male was reported for an assault and resisting arrest at Bruntsfield Place on the 9th.

A 40 year old male was reported for breach of the peace at Leven Street on the 10th.

A 22 year old male was reported for urinating at Lochrin Terrace on the 12th.

A 22 year old male was reported for urinating at Home Street on the 12th.

A 16 year old male was reported for breach of the peace at Bruntsfield Avenue on the 18th.

An 19 year old male was reported for urinating at Lochrin Terrace on the 23rd.

An 18 year old male was reported for urinating at Home Street on the 23rd.

A 19 year old male was reported for a breach of the peace at Colinton Road on the 26th.

A 38 year old male was reported for an assault at Lochrin Place on the 27th.

A 26 year old male was reported for a housebreaking at Bruntsfield Avenue on the 27th.

A 29 year old male was reported for a housebreaking at Merchiston Avenue on the 31st.

TAGGED INCIDENTS

During the month there were 162 incidents logged by the police in respect of your ward. Of these only 10 were graded 1, i.e. emergencies; 36 were Graded 2 i.e. not emergencies but should be responded to within one hour. The remainder were dealt with by the Community Beat Officer or patrol officers.

Useful Numbers

COMMUNITY BEAT OFFICERS:-

PC Alan Hopper

E-Mail alan.hopper@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Inspector Richard Horan

E-Mail: richard.horan@lbp.pnn.police.uk

PC Mark Dickson– Neighbourhood Action Unit

E-Mail: mark.dickson@lbp.pnn.police.uk

ST LEONARDS POLICE STATION

0131-662-5022

COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT

0131-221-2050 / 2100

And Finally....

With December fast approaching a lot of people are doing their Christmas shopping. Be careful with your wallet or handbag, pick pockets are rare in Edinburgh but it does happen. Likewise make sure your house insurance covers the potential extra value of any presents.

Also, whether you celebrate Christmas or not, please don't leave valuables, shopping, presents or other goods in your vehicle – it's an easy, tempting target for the opportunist thief.

Richard Horan

