

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News



**ISSUE 64 –
November 2009**

‘Work With Us’

Divisional Commanders Message

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 1st 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

**CITY
WIDE**

Top Tips to Avoid Identity Theft

- 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.

**HOT
TOPICS**

Local News

Ward 12 Leith Walk

NW23 Broughton

CBO Simon Daley

NW 24 Lorne

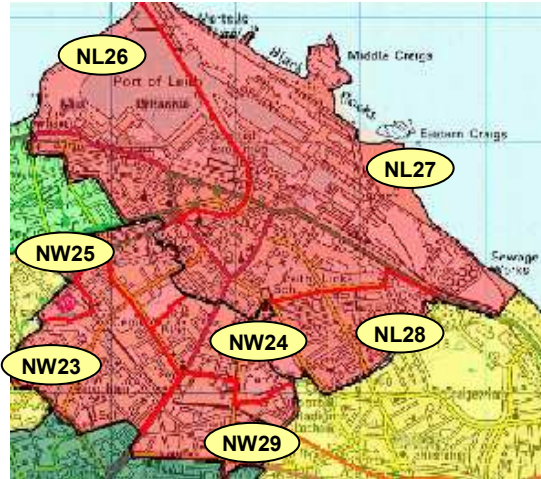
CBO Mark Muir

NW25 Bonnington

CBO Margo Anderson

NW29 Hillside

CBO Kevin Braidwood



Ward 13 – Leith

NL26 Newhaven

CBO John Pennycook

NL27 Harbour & Links

CBO Ian Sim

NL28 Restalrig & Lochend

CBO Lee Jack

NW23 - Broughton Beat

Broughton has again suffered mindless vandalisms to people's property in the form of wing mirrors and windscreens of cars. We need your help to identify the culprits to ensure they are stopped. Please be vigilant and alert us to any suspicious activity.

PC Simon Daley

NW24 - Lorne Beat

During the month of October there were a total of 263 call made to the Police resulting in a total of 60 crimes being recorded. October saw a fall in House breakings with only 3 reported. A 23 year-old male was arrested for 2 of these in Thorntreeside. A total of 7 vehicles were broken into and enquiries are continuing into these. The item of choice remains to be the Satellite navigation systems that drivers are leaving out on display. You must remove these items as they are high value and easily sold on. Areas of choice have been Dalmeny Street, Halmyre Street, Leith Walk, Easter Road, Iona Street and New Orchardfield.

Vandalism remains to be high on the agenda with 11 reports of vandalism reported. A number of new "TAGS" have appeared on walls and common stair door. Some of the tags are fairly detailed and must have taken considerable time to complete. Despite this members of the public are not phoning in at the time. If you see anyone defacing property you are perfectly within your rights to either detain that person, which is obviously a judgement call, or to either video or photograph the culprit. This would be of great assistance to the Police in identifying people.

I am please to report that only 1 pedal cycle was stolen during October. My colleagues in the Neighbourhood Action Unit are currently involved in an initiative to stop and check persons on bikes to ensure they are not stolen and also to educate bike owners to take the necessary precautions when securing their bikes.

PC Mark Muir

Local News



NW25 – Bonnington Beat

This month on the beat there has been 1 housebreaking in Agnew Terrace whereby the front door was forced and entry gained. There were 3 other attempts in Pitt Street and Trafalgar Street again attempts were made to force the front doors however the doors held on these occasions.

There have been 2 break-in to cars in South Fort Street and Tinto Street with attempts to break-in to 2 cars in Bonnington Road and West Bowling Green Street. A lab top computer has been stolen whilst left unattended.

3 pedal cycles have been stolen from common stairs and a car park. These thefts are beat wide.

There have been 7 assaults on the beat. An assault and robbery occurred in Newhaven Road where the culprit was dressed all in black wearing a balaclava. Another occurred in St Marks Park where the male culprit had a distinctive description being about 5'9 wearing a dark Adidas hoodie with white stripes down the arms and white jogging bottoms. Please call if you have any information..

Lastly a male was reported for a Breach of the Peace in Ferry Road and a female reported for Racial in Bonnington Road.

PC Margo Anderson

NW 29 – Hillside Beat

October has seen a slight increase in the number of housebreakings with there being eight in total for the month. There were 3 bicycle thefts. The houses being targeted are newer houses whereby entry is being gained via service buttons and thereafter doors are being forced with jemmy bars or bodily pressure. Interestingly most of these crimes are being committed during daytime hours. One male was traced in October after being identified for numerous housebreakings in the Leith area.

Should anyone require crime prevention advice please do not hesitate to contact me and this can be arranged.

With the run in to Christmas and the dark nights fast approaching I would encourage you to report any suspicious activity and ensure that your property is secure.

Queen Margaret College in Montgomery Street. Steps have fitted new higher gates in response to recent complaints of antisocial behaviour.

One person has been reported for cannabis cultivation in the Montgomery area. .

PC Kevin Braidwood

Local News



NL26 – Newhaven Beat

Recent months have been a testing time for us with a spate of daytime breaking to homes through out Leith. The Newhaven Beat area saw 12 such break-ins or attempted break-ins, with Newhaven/ Western Harbour suffering the most.

I would urge all house holders to make sure that there homes are as secure as possible, secure windows, make proper use of all locks and ensure that common stair doors are properly closed. Consider the use of timers for lights etc or leave a radio on to give the impression your home is occupied. Within your home you can make life difficult for any would be thief by ensuring that your valuable items and expensive electrical items such as laptops are not left out and accessible.

However I can now report that the male believed responsible for the majority of these incidents has been arrested and charged with over twenty offences.

On a positive note, the person responsible for damaging the garden furniture at Victoria Primary school has been traced and charged with the offence. Enquiries have now tracked down his accomplices and they will be reported in due course.

I would like to thank the community for their assistance in identifying those responsible. It is only with the support of the community that we can bring these offenders to book.

PC John Pennycook

NL27 – Harbour & Links Beat

As the darker nights draw in, the issue of security has again come to the fore. A slight rise in housebreakings last month means this issue remains a priority for several local Police departments who are actively following positive lines of enquiry in pursuing the culprits. While we usually know these offenders and their methods, as a community officer I'd much rather stop the offence than detect the offender, so although I've laboured this point before, please contact us if you've any concerns over the security of your home or business for a free crime prevention survey.

We've also been tackling concerns over several antisocial behaviour issues and crimes, from street drinkers to prostitution. Although these problems are as much social issues as crimes and the prioritisation of Police resources towards other serious matters and volume complaints can occasionally limit our response to these issues, we still do act proactively and deal robustly with this type of activity. If any of these matters are a concern then please contact us on the numbers listed below.

PC Ian Sim

Local News



NL28 – Restalrig & Lochend Beat

There were 216 calls made to police during the month of October this equates to around 7 calls per day. There were two housebreakings reported and two attempted housebreakings and I am happy to report that a male has been charged in relation to these. There were also 2 calls in relation to prostitution in the NL28 area. A number of males and females were charged over the month in relation to prostitution offences. We are still receiving youth calls, however considering the holiday period during the month the calls were fairly low. I'm delighted that the youth club previously run last year with great success at the YWCA is about to re-open and has funding in place for two years. When running last year we were getting between 40-50 young people attending. Unfortunately the midnight league football at Leith Academy come to an end this month, this has also been well attended.

PC Lee Jack

Ocean Terminal

The Ocean Terminal held the Gearing Up For Winter Campaign on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th October, which was run by the Roads Policing Branch. This involved a fast response vehicle being placed within the main shopping mall were advice was given by Roads Policing Officers to the public regarding vehicle safety advice for the pending winter time. This was very popular and attracted a lot of attention.

There will be Bonfire Night Ad trailer skins placed at the Terminal, which will give safety advice regarding bonfire night and the dangers of fireworks strategically placed for shoppers and the public to see.

On Saturday 7th November the Terminal will host Felix Da Housecat from 22:00-03:00. This is a very popular dance night, which is sure to attract a large crowd. Tickets from the Radio Forth website.

Overall crime at the Terminal has continued to drop due to crime prevention measures, which have been put in place by Police and Security Staff, who continue to enjoy an excellent joint working relationship

PC Mike Emblem

Laser light attacks on Aviation

During the last year there has been a marked increase in the number of incidents involving persons directing laser lights at civilian aircraft on approach to UK Airports. Edinburgh, as with other areas of the UK has been affected with the number of reported instances reaching double figures so far this year. It can not be emphasised enough how dangerous this is for the pilots, crew and passengers travelling on these aircraft, the pilots' vision can be impaired for a significant length of time and the more powerful laser lights can cause severe damage to the eye from a significant distance away. There is a power of arrest under the civil aviation act with respect to this and Lothian and borders Police will enforce this whenever required.

Lothian and Borders Police would ask that any person in possession of a laser light acknowledge the dangers involved to the travelling public and refrain from directing the light into the night sky around aircraft flight paths. We would also welcome any information, which would lead to the apprehension of an offender in relation to these crimes.

Edinburgh Airport Police Station
Tel. - 0131 344 3257
E-Mail :- edinburgh.airport@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Useful Numbers



Know the Score

(Information and advice on drugs)
0800 587 5879

CLARENCE

(Street light faults etc)
0800 232323

clarence@edinburgh.gov.uk

Victim Support Helpline

0845 603 9213

Leith Police Station

0131-554-9350

The Scottish Helpline for

Older Persons

0845 125 9732

Edinburgh Community

Mediation Service

Tel: 0131 557 2101

CRIME STOPPERS

0800 555 111



LOTHIAN AND BORDERS

**Safety
Camera**

PARTNERSHIP



CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111

