

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



ISSUE 1 Sept. 2004

'Working in Partnership for a Safer City'

CITY
WIDE

Reporting on Your Local Policing Issues

I am delighted to introduce this first issue of Edinburgh's new policing Newsletter. Policing in the capital has undergone some major changes recently and one of our main aims has been to improve the way we communicate with other agencies, community groups and most importantly you, the city's residents. This Newsletter is a crucial part of that strategy. Wherever you live in the city, each edition will offer you a mix of topical policing issues, crime prevention advice and local news items. I trust you will find this format both interesting and useful.

Allan Shanks, Chief Superintendent

TOP
TALKERS

Crimestoppers is a charitable organisation that is based within the Scottish Criminal Record Office in Glasgow. The scheme originated in the USA and is now operated in Canada, Australia and Ireland. Crimestoppers works through a single Nationwide freephone number **0800-555-111** which can be used to give confidential information. This number can be called at any time with information about any crime type. Anonymity is guaranteed and you will not be asked for your name. Calls are not traced or recorded and they will not appear on your phone record. Callers are offered cash rewards if their information leads to an arrest and charge of an offender. In 2003 Crimestoppers, Scotland, received 7,793 actionable calls resulting in 502 arrests and the seizure of drugs and property to the value of £590,066.

A crime trend to be aware of this month involves a number of housebreakings across the city where car keys and subsequently the cars themselves have been among items stolen. It is recommended that you keep your vehicle and house keys in a safe place that is easy for you to access but is not obvious to a potential housebreaker. In addition do not leave house keys in the lock as this can aid the thief in their escape.

If you would like further Crime Prevention advice please contact the West End Community Safety Department on 0131-221-2050/2090.

LOCK
NEWS

MORNINGSIDE SECTOR (WARDS 45, 46, 47 & 51)

I hope this newsletter find you refreshed and batteries re-charged after the summer break. On the crime front there is good news. In the Morningside Sector overall the number of crimes has dropped by 3% when compared to last years figures and at the same time the number of crimes solved has risen by 9%. However, as I'm sure some of you know crime continues to happen and therefore we all must guard against complacency. Keep vigilant ! A more localised breakdown is continued overleaf.

'Brian Nisbet' – Morningside Sector Inspector



Ward 46 - North Morningside / Grange

Here are the crime figures for August 2004, which numbered 49 in total.

DOMESTIC HOUSEBREAKING

There were four reports during the month.

Two occurred during the day. One in Maxwell Street on the 19th by climbing a drain pipe and forcing a window. The other was in Grange Loan on the 30th by smashing a front bedroom window. The good news is that a 20 year-old male has since been apprehended for this crime.

The other two were during the night. One in Woodhall Terrace on 8th, by smashing a bedroom window. The other in Colinton Road on 12th where entry was gained by raising an insecure window.

There was also a slip in Cluny Avenue at 9pm on 28th, when a female acted as lookout while a 20 year old male entered a house via the insecure front door.

He was caught by the occupier and locked in the house until the police attended and arrested both of them. A first class response by the occupier !

BUSINESS HOUSEBREAKINGS

Seven business premises were broken into or attempted during the month. Five in Morningside Road and one in each of Spring Valley Gardens, Falcon Road and Blackford Avenue. None of the premises appear to have been alarmed and all occurred over night. On the positive side detectives are pursuing positive lines of enquiry into these crimes.

THEFT of MOTOR VEHICLES

Unfortunately there were four vehicles stolen this month. Three of these were old style Ford Fiesta's taken from Maxwell Street, Caanan Lane and Clinton Road. The fourth was a motor cycle from Woodburn Terrace. All of these happened over night and all have since been recovered. A 14 year old male has been reported for crime at Clinton Road.

There is a pattern emerging whereby it is older i.e pre 'L' registered Fiestas and Corsas are being targetted by criminals. They are easy pickings in comparison to modern cars with immobilisers. If you own such a vehicle your are strongly advised to fit extra security devices.

THEFTs from MOTOR VEHICLES

There were two thefts from vehicles and is part of a current trend across the city. In many cases the property being targetted is the radio / CD player and CDs. Too many people are still leaving items clearly visible to the opportunist thief. **Remember if there is nothing there to steal it is unlikely the vehicle will be broken into!**

For great advice and hints, which if acted on could reduce your chances of becoming a victim of auto crime, visit the web link.

<http://www.secureyourmotor.gov.uk/>

OTHER CRIME

At 3.15pm Sunday 22nd August an elderly woman was walking in Woodburn Terrace when a male ran up from behind and stole her handbag, and ran off. Thankfully the lady didn't suffer any serious injury.

DRUGS

There were four separate incidents during the month which led to four individual males being reported for illegal possession of personal amounts of drugs.

OTHER ISSUES

Parking Obstructions

The practice of parking on the footway, double banking with others vehicles or the wheelie bins and simple inconsiderate parking continues to be the major complaint of many residents in the area. Springvalley Gardens, Springvalley Terrace and Woodburn Terrace in particular.

Whilst the police have in the past given this particular issue passing attention, the time has come for 'firmer action'. At a recent fire call to one of your streets the attending fire appliances could not get access to premises on fire because of the inconsiderate parking of motor vehicles.

The Sector Police Inspector has issued

instructions to the local Community Beat Officers to tackle the issue. Advisory notices will be circulate locally, thereafter any vehicle which is parked in manner likely to cause a danger or obstruction to others may be liable to a fixed penalty ticket and / or impounding. **You have been warned!**

LOGGED INCIDENTS

During the month there were 179 incidents logged by the police in respect of your ward. Of these only 18 were Graded 1 i.e. 'emergencies'. 60 were Graded 2 i.e. not emergencies but should be responded to within one hour. The remainder were more routine and in the main dealt with by the Community Beat Officers.

Contact Numbers

COMMUNITY BEAT OFFICERS:-

PC Alison Porter

E-Mail: alison.porter@lbp.pnn.police.uk

PC Carlyn McGhee

E-Mail: carlyn.mcghee@lbp.pnn.police.uk

PC Max Hamilton

E-Mail: max.hamilton@lbp.pnn.police.uk

INSPECTOR Brian Nisbet

E-Mail: brian.nisbet@lbp.pnn.police.uk

HOWDENHALL POLICE STATION

0131-666-2222

COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT

0131-221-2050 / 2100



And Finally....

We Will be hosting a conference to promote Neighbourhood Watches / Associations within the Morningside and Newington Police Sectors.

All NHW Coordinators and known Residents Association contacts within Wards 45 – 51 will be invited to attend this informal evening.

The venue will be James Gillespie High School on Monday 4th October, 2004, between 7.00 – 8.30pm.

Please take this opportunity to meet and speak with the local police officers who work in and for your ward.