

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.

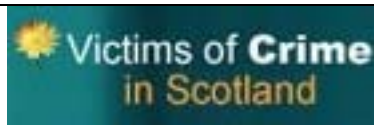
If you would like further Crime Prevention advice please contact the West End Community Safety Department on 0131-221-2050/2090.

LOCK
NEWS

NEWINGTON SECTOR (WARDS 49, 49 & 50)

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 Newington 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 13%. 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' – Newington Sector Inspector



Ward 48 - Sciennes

Here is a summary of the crime figures for August 2004. They are slightly up on last month with the total number of recorder crimes in the Ward standing at 34.

HOUSEBREAKING

The good news is that only one premises was broken into this month. This being a business in Causewayside, which was entered by smashing a main window in the early hours of 31st.

There was a daytime 'slip in' theft at a dwelling house Lauder Road on 21st, where someone entered via the insecure front door and stole a wallet and contents from the hallway.

A similar incident occurred in Findhorn Place on 6th. On this occasion someone entered the insecure hallway and stole a mobile phone. A 27 year old female has since been arrested for this crime

This particular MO is easily prevented by simply locking your door even when you are in the house. **Don't make it easy for the thief!**

THEFT of / from MOTOR VEHICLES

Continues to be 'hot' issue within the ward. There have been 4 x vehicles stolen and one attempt. These occurred in Sciennes Road, Sciennes Place, Lauder Road, Livingston Place and Hatton Place. Only two have been recovered to date. Not surprisingly older cars are being targeted, particularly Fiestas, Corsas and Metros. If you own such a vehicle you are strongly advised to fit extra security devices.

There were four instances when cars were broken into and property stolen. The locii were Hatton Place overnight 6/7th, Dick Place and Cumin Place on 15th. Yet again the target was property left within the car in clear view of the

opportunist thief A camcorder, mobile phone and holdall were all stolen.

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

BICYCLE THEFTS— are on the increase in the Sciennes area. There were seven pedal cycles stolen this month. These were from Livingston Place x 2, Marchmont Crescent, Sciennes Road, Esdaile Bank x 3 and Grange Road. None of these have been recovered as yet.

In all but one occasion the owners had secured the bikes to railings or within a stairwell and the security had been overcome and the bikes taken.

Again the best crime prevention advice is if possible, to store your cycles within your dwelling or within a SECURE shed / garage. Out of sight from prying eyes.

The Community Safety Department are currently based at the West End Police Station. **Tel. No. 0131 221 2050** they will provide further crime prevention advice on request.

Keep a record of the model and serial number of your bicycle, as this information is crucial when Police check those outlets where stolen property is often sold.

The following web link offers good impartial advice on cycle security

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/crime/prevention/cyclesecurity.shtml>

THEFT - this month have risen and have commonly involved mobile phones and wallets being taken whilst left unattended. This pattern has concentrated on the Sick Kids Hospital in Sciennes Road but has also extended to cafes within the area.

There has also been a theft to common stairwell in the area which involved forcing the door with a screwdriver or similar implement. This again highlights shared doorways as an area in which security can be improved.

LOGGED INCIDENTS

During the month there were 115 incidents logged by the police in respect of your ward. Of these 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 local Community Beat Officers.

Contact Numbers

COMMUNITY BEAT OFFICERS:-

PC Barry Taylor

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PC Mike Smith

E-Mail: mike.smith@lbp.pnn.police.uk

INSPECTOR Brian Nisbet

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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.