

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



ISSUE 9 MAY, 2005

'Working in Partnership for a Safer City'

CITY
WIDE

Policing Expectations in a Changing World

Today's police service is open to an unprecedented level of public scrutiny and accountability. My job is essentially to balance a finite budget and workforce on the one hand, with your high expectations of a safe city on the other. I have an obligation to continually look at how we work and see if we can do things more efficiently. 'Operation Capital', the restructuring of city policing that began in 2003, has produced many benefits. Aligning our policing boundaries, for example, has allowed us to pioneer unique partnership initiatives such as our Safer Community Units at Broomhouse and Craigmillar, and our Youth Action Team in Howdenhall. Equally, we recognise that traditional policing in the shape of the well known and accessible local 'bobby' is something that you value highly. This is why, as of the beginning of this month, we will be taking the bold step of allocating 58 dedicated *Community Beat Officers* to the 58 individual wards that make up the city. These officers will be backed up on a '24/7' basis by the larger bulk of *Community Patrol Officers*, but their primary responsibility will be to work solely with local people on local issues. We have done all we can to protect their time in and I will watch how their role evolves with interest.

Ch Supt Allan Shanks, Divisional Commander

FOCUS

Community Safety

Last month Lothian and Borders Fire Service launched a **free** home safety check service, which provides home safety advice and where required, the supply and fitting of **free** 10-year smoke detectors.

Since this time some people have received telephone calls offering home safety surveys in relation to the installation of fire detection equipment and home security systems. **These calls are not from the Fire Service.**

The caller attempts to arrange a home visit and is very persistent in this tactic. Due to this hard sell approach the recipients, who are generally older or vulnerable members of society, submit to this badgering and agree to a home survey.

Experience shows that once access has been gained to the home of an older member of the community the hard sell approach will continue until a sale is made.

To arrange **free home safety check** you can call the Fire Service on **0800 169 0320** or if you are in any doubt about a call made to you, feel free to phone Fire Service HQ on **0131 228 2401**.

The Safer Communities Department will be at the Royal Highland Show from the 23rd to the 26th June. We will have a variety of themes such as raising awareness of housebreaking, vehicle crime, wildlife crime, tackling bogus caller activity, as well as having competitions for children. Representatives from various security product manufacturers, all accredited to 'secured by design' standard, will also be available.

Feel free to come along and pick our brains about reducing crime in your area, or simply to pick up a leaflet or two. Here's hoping the weather holds though!

Ward 50 – Prestonfield / Priestfield

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Welcome to the May 2005 Local Police Neighbourhood Newsletter

Hello Folks,

As of May 2005 I will become the sole Community Beat Officer for Area 50. You will have a single point of contact with the opportunity to spend more time undertaking community issues without the abstractions for the policing of sporting and other events previously associated with the role.

I can be contacted at Howdenhall Police Station on 0131.658.5225 or 'e' mail neill.Sinclair@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Regards

Neill Sinclair

PC 2977A



SOMETHING IS A BIT OFF

It has come to our attention that there has been a problem with the Prestonfield football pitch. We have been encouraging our future local football stars to play on the pitch rather than the road but on occasions they have found it unplayable due to dog owners letting their four legged friends leave a deposit.

Could we come to an arrangement where the dog owners walk their dogs in the grass area opposite the play park (Prestonfield Road side). Obviously on the understanding that they pick up the deposits and take them away.

Thankyou

Thefts Take The Biscuit

As you will note from the 'reported crime in brief' section of this newsletter, premises in Peffermill Road have fallen victim to criminals a number of times in the last month. These crimes vary from minor vandalism to a high value housebreaking where a large quantity of tools were taken from a workshop. While all the necessary security precautions have been taken the police should be contacted in the event anything suspicious is seen.

Dial 999 (If Urgent)

We are following several lines of enquiry into the incidents but would love to catch the culprits **Red Handed.**



Spread the word

'Shut that door'
'Lock it behind you'
'Do not open to strangers'
'Ask for Identification'
'Unsure ? then just close the door'
Bogus person? Tell the Police

CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE

Available from our
COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT
on
0131.221.2051

Housing Department:

Greig Henderson Tel 0131-529-5148

E-mail: greig.henderson@edinburgh.gov.uk

Cameron House Community Educe. Centre:

Tel: 0131-667-3762

Prestonfield Primary School:

Tel: 0131-667-1336

Prestonfield Neighbourhood Centre:

Linda Wright

Tel: 0131.620.7222 / Fax. 0131.620.7221

E-mail: prestonfieldnp@southedinburgh.net

Local Councillor:

Gordon McKenzie Tel: 0131.529.3101

E-mail:

gordon.f.mackenzie@edinburgh.gov.uk

Priestfield Church:

Tel: 0131.669.7762

Prestonfield House Hotel:

Tel: 0131.668.3346

Commonwealth Pool

Tel: 0131.667.7211

Pollock Halls of Residence

Tel: 0131.651.2016 – Security Manager

REPORTED CRIME IN BRIEF

30/04 Prestonfield Road – *Minor assault*

30/04 Peffermill Road – *Theft by Housebreaking*

30/04 South Oxford Street – *Theft from a car*

30/04 Dalkeith road – *Breach of the Peace*

29/04 East Preston Street – *Theft of a Bike*

27/04 Cameron Hse Avenue – *Vandalism*

27/04 Marchhall Road – *Theft Housebreaking*

24/04 Pollock Halls – *Theft From Taxi*

24/04 Pollock Halls – *Theft*

23/04 Dalkeith road– *Theft of a bike*

24/04 Kings Meadow – *Theft of a car*

19/04 Newington road – *Vandalism*

14/04 Dalkeith Road – *Minor Assault*

11/04 Priestfield Road – *Attempted Housebreaking*

09/04 Commonwealth Pool - *Theft*

08/04 Commonwealth Pool – *Theft from a locker*

07/04 Salisbury Road – *Minor Assault*

03/04 Holyrood Park road – *Theft*

02/04 Peffermill Road – *Vandalism*

06/04 Peffermill Road – *Theft*

02/04 Prestonfield Primary – *Vandalism*

The statistics for the month of April show a total of 31 reported crimes in Ward 50.

There were 87 incidents logged by the police in respect of your ward. Of these 8 were graded at 1 i.e. Emergencies requiring immediate attention. 27 calls were graded 2 i.e. not emergencies but should be responded to within one hour. The remainder were more routine and mainly dealt with by the local Community Beat Officers or advice given over the telephone.

Contact Numbers

COMMUNITY BEAT OFFICER: -

PC 2977-A Neill Sinclair

E-Mail: neill.sinclair@lbp.pnn.police.uk

COMMUNITY INSPECTOR: -

PI 3442-A Graham Jones

E-Mail: graham.jones@lbp.pnn.police.uk

HOWDENHALL POLICE STATION

0131-658.5225 / 5235 FAX 0131 672 1787

And Finally....

Progress has and continues to be made in tackling crime and anti social behaviour in 'A' Division.

Between March 2004 and April 2005 recorded crime across the Howdenhall police area fell by 3% while the solvency rate rose by 2% on the previous year.

Building on successes elsewhere the South Edinburgh Youth Action Team are to be increased in number to six from July, they will be joined by a further six Safer Communities Officers later in the summer enhancing our existing ability to engage with the community in problem solving policing partnerships.

