

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



ISSUE 29 – January 2007

'Working in Partnership for a Safer City'

Divisional Commander's Message

CITY
WIDE

Speaking to you in my first Divisional Newsletter, I am pleased to announce that at the end of December 2006, recorded crime across the Capital was 5% lower than at the same time last year. Detection rates also improved with a 6% increase in the number of crimes being solved citywide. Improved performance can be attributed to many factors, not least the fact that the police, the City of Edinburgh Council and many private and voluntary agencies across the Capital are now working closely together to improve safety.

Work is progressing towards 1st April 2007, when existing police beats will be realigned to match proposed changes to Council wards. I am confident that the change will further strengthen partnership working by allowing us to better coordinate our resources and so improve the implementation of crime reduction and community safety measures.

Chief Superintendent George Simpson, Divisional Commander

Lothian & Borders Police are now Podcasting!

TO
HOLD
US

Podcasting emerged in 2004 and offers a way to provide information in the form of video and audio files. These files can be downloaded and played free of charge on any personal computer or portable MP3-playing device and provide an additional communication channel for the public to access police information.

Podcasts on the **Festive Drink Driving Campaign**, **Crimestoppers** and **Personal Safety** are now available on the Lothian and Borders Police Website at www.lbp.police.uk.

We hope you find this service useful and informative.

REMEMBER,

If you see a crime being committed contact us on 999 in an emergency when urgent police assistance is required or on telephone 0131 311 3131 to report a crime.

If you have information regarding crime or criminal activity, you can call the independent charity **CRIMESTOPPERS** anonymously on 0800 555111.

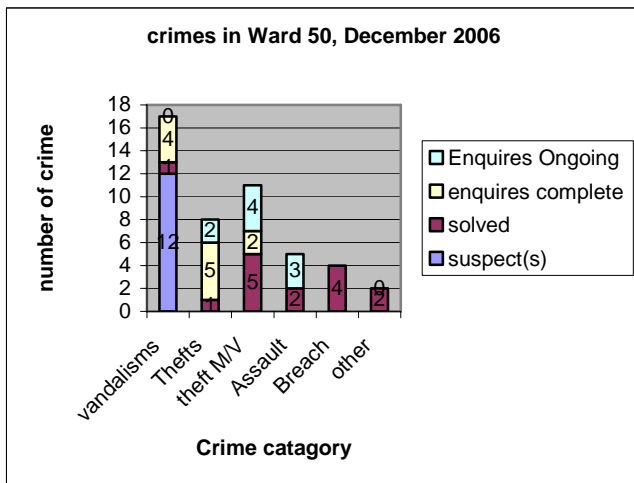
Ward 50 - Prestonfield

Here is the January 2007 newsletter for the Prestonfield area covering the activity within the area from the 1st December 2006 to the 31st December 2006. I hope you find it informative as well providing you with a summary of the crime within your area, whilst also mentioning local and police issues.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am Helen Foot and I am the new Community Beat Officer for the area. Being a community beat officer is a new challenge for me and I am looking forward to working with people within the community in Ward 50.

Crime Summary

In total 118 calls were made to the police from people within ward 50. 5 of these were grade 1 calls meaning they were dealt with by emergency response. The rest of the calls included 22 grade 2 calls, which means they required a response within an hour. 49 crimes have been reported to the police and these are shown in categories in the graph below. The solvency rate stands at approximately 30%.



TARGETS FOR JANUARY:

- Reduce the crimes of Vandalism.
- Reduce Car crime in the Marchhall and Kirkhill areas (theft M/V in graph above)
- Follow up the "bus gate" warnings with a second initiative issuing fines to offenders

VANDALISM:

Vandalism has been the biggest problem in the area during the month of December. There have been 19 vandalisms in the area, which includes 13 to cars and one to Prestonfield Primary School. Through enquires I identified the youth responsible for the vandalism to the school and I charged him with the offence. He was also charged with a breach of the peace at the school along with four others who were with him. 12 of the cars vandalised were in a one off incident during the night of the 27th December 2006. Enquires are still ongoing in relation to this and suspects have come to light but there is currently not sufficient evidence to charge anyone with the offences. We urge anyone with any information to contact us. Even the smallest piece of information may help.

An Operation is being run in January 2007 in the South LPA by officers with a view of targeting and identifying offenders responsible for vandalism.

THEFTS OF MOTOR VEHICLES: 11 cars were stolen or broken into from within Prestonfield predominantly from the Marchhall area. Five of these have now been solved and offenders have been charged.



Protect your car and your belongings

Any valuable possessions you leave in your car are at risk from being stolen. Never give a thief a reason to break in and steal your belongings - they will take any opportunity you give them.

Useful Numbers

~ **Community Beat Officer:** PC 5516A

Helen Foot,

E-mail: helen.foot@lbp.pnn.police.uk

~ **Community Inspector:**

PI3481A Tom Galbraith,

E-mail: tom.galbraith@lbp.pnn.police.uk

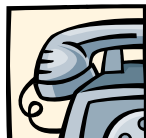
~ **Youth Action Team:** PC 5237A Angela

Edmonds Tel:0131 529 7998

E-mail: angela.edmunds@lbp.pnn.police.uk

HOWDENHALL POLICE STATION:

0131 658 5225



How to contact police to report incidents:

URGENT: 999

Non- Urgent calls/general enquires:
0131 311 3131 or www.lbp.police.uk or
email: enquires@lbp.pnn.police.uk

~ **Local councillor:** Gordon McKenzie, 0131 5293101, www.gordonmackenzie.org

E-mail:

gordon.f.mackenzie@edinburgh.gov.uk

~ **Local MSP:** Mike Pringle, 0131 348 5788

E-mail:

mike.pringle.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

www.mikepringlemsp.com

~ **Housing department**

Louise Vittery Tel 0131.529.5139

E-mail: louise.vittery@edinburgh.gov.uk

~ **Cameron House Community Edinburgh**

Centre, Tel:0131.667.3762 or

www.cameronhouse.edin.org

~ **Prestonfield Primary School**

Tel: 0131.667.1336

~ **Prestonfield Neighbourhood Project**

Centre, Linda Wright Tel: 0131.620.7222

~ **Pollock Halls of Residence**

Tel: 0131.651.2016 (Security Manager)

GOOD NEWS - OFFENDER DETECTED

The Howdenhall Initiative team recently detained a suspect who was interviewed and charged with a total of 17 offences, which included 11 offences that occurred within the Prestonfield Area. These were mainly theft of motor vehicles or theft of property from cars. The locus of these included Dalkeith Road, Salisbury Road, Prestonfield Road, Blackwood Crescent, Priesthill Road, Marchhall Place, Pollock Halls of Residence and Marchhall Crescent and the offences dated back to the beginning of September 2006.

THE BUS-GATE

Warning letters were issued to those drivers who were found driving through the bus gate during the initiative in October – Phase 2 will be running soon and offenders will be prosecuted – the majority of whom appear to reside outwith your area but if you do know of anyone who uses this gate – **BE WARNED !!**

And Finally....

The vandalism initiative in January will target those who cause indiscriminate damage whilst en route home from public houses.

If you have any community issues or would like to be included on the Newsletter mailing list please contact PC Foot.





LOTHIAN AND BORDERS POLICE

APPEAL FOR INFORMATION

Did you hear or see anything or do you know any information that could assist us in catching the culprit(s) responsible for the following crimes?

Between 10.00 pm on the 27th December 2006 and 8.30 am on the 28th December 2006 a number of vehicles parked in Prestonfield Avenue and the surrounding roads had one or more of their tyres slashed. The cost of damage to these vehicles is expected to be high and we are appealing for any witnesses who may have seen this incident or have information regarding it.

If you have **any** information please contact

PC 5516A Helen Foot or PC 5271A Max Hamilton on
0131 311 3131 or by email: Helen.foot@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Or you can contact CRIMESTOPPERS anonymously on
0800 555 111

Many thanks

