

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



ISSUE 5 January, 2005

'Working in Partnership for a Safer City'

The New Year – Fresh Measures to Tackle City Crime

CITY
WIDE

Many of us traditionally make resolutions at this time of the year, resolutions that for the most part we may later break without detriment to others or ourselves. In my role as policing commander for the City of Edinburgh, I do not have this luxury. You –the city's residents- rightly expect my officers to hit our targets on crime. As 2005 opens, crime solvency in the city balances out at almost 40%, a figure twice that for London or similarly sized Liverpool. Over the next 12 months, I will ensure that our performance on key goals – theft by housebreakings, drugs offences, violent crime and disorder in public places- is maintained. Internal changes aimed at improved local community policing will take place throughout the year. Two new specially funded police teams –Safer Communities Units- and a Youth Action Team will also begin operating. Early models of both types of team already exist in the capital and have a proven track record of success - in one case reducing recorded crime by almost 50%. I will report on progress here in future Newsletters.

Allan Shanks Divisional Commander

OPERATION ALERT

HOT
TOPICS

Operation Alert was formed in March 2004 by Lothian and Borders Police to raise awareness of and investigate all forms of Bogus Caller Activity within the City of Edinburgh. Few would argue that this type of criminal behaviour is repulsive given that the vast majority of victims are older and more vulnerable members of our community. The Home Office Leaflet entitled, "How to Beat the Bogus Caller" gives excellent advice on how to reduce the likelihood of being targeted by these criminals. The assistance of all city Neighbourhood Watches is being urgently sought to distribute this leaflet amongst local communities, especially the elderly.

Please contact PC Andrew Cameron on andrew.cameron@lbp.pnn.police.uk If you are willing to distribute a small quantity of these leaflets to homes, shops, community centres or any other locations within your area. Please supply your name and address along with the quantity of leaflets required and details of the area in which they will be distributed. The leaflets will then be sent out to you by post or dropped off at your local Police Station for collection.

ARE YOUR CAR KEYS SAFE?

Vehicle keys are often stolen during break-ins. This not only gives thieves a quick get away but also an easy means of transporting **YOUR** property. Before leaving the house or going to bed ask yourself the following six questions:

- Is my house secure? Have I locked the doors and windows?**
- Can my car keys be seen from outside? Are they easy to find?**
- Is my car secure? Have I left anything on open display?**

By taking a few simple precautions you can protect home and reduce the risk of your car being taken for a ride.

Ward 55 – Moredun

Ward 55 - Moredun

Welcome to the local section of the neighbourhood newsletter for your ward.

In December there were 102 crimes recorded. Of these, 25 were solved.

HOUSEBREAKING

There were no domestic housebreakings in the Moredun area this month, and only one break-in to a garden shed, where the door was forced open.

THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

There were five thefts of motor vehicles this month, three of which were recovered in the local area and one was recovered in Baberton. They occurred at Upper Craigour, Ferniehill Street, Moredun Park Way, Moredunvale View and Gilmerton Road. The vehicles concerned were older vehicles including 2 Corsa's.

There was also an attempt to steal a motor car in Moredun Park Court by smashing the window and attempting to hotwire the vehicle.

THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLES

Four thefts from motor vehicles occurred this month in Ellangowan Terrace, Moredunvale Place, Ravenswood Avenue and Moredun Park View. Among the items taken were audio speakers, registration plates, and an exhaust. The majority of these cars had their windows smashed to gain entry.

There were also three attempts to steal from motor vehicles at Moredun Park Way, Lammermuir Terrace and Craigour Drive. Two of these vehicles had their windows smashed and in the other case the door was forced.

VANDALISM

MOTOR VEHICLES

There have been 25 reports of vandalisms to motor vehicles over the past month. In almost all of these cases, the vehicles had windows smashed and occurred in the evenings. So far only one culprit has been identified for one of these crimes. If you have any information or see anything suspicious please contact us on the numbers provided.

Four of these vandalisms happened to buses in the Moredun area, again having their windows smashed. On one occasion the windows were smashed by youths on the bus. More worryingly the other three incidents involved bricks being thrown through the windows of moving buses which were carrying passengers.

PROPERTY

There have also been 14 reports of vandalisms to property this month, with incidents occurring in the Moredun, Ferniehill and Fernieside areas. The most common incidents are windows being smashed or cracked, although there are also instances of garden fences and hedges being pulled down.

YOUTH ISSUES

Youth disorder continues to be a problem in the Moredun area, however, in an effort to tackle this, a new initiative has been set up which will see an increase in patrols both from the Youth Action Team and local officers. These will concentrate on problem areas, and especially at weekends and evenings where problems are at their highest and often aggravated by under-age drinking.

YOUR COMMUNITY BEAT OFFICERS

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And Finally....

Following a review of 'Operation Capital', the Divisional Management Team have decided to make a number of minor changes to the allocation of resources across the division. The main one being that the response officers who currently attend the more urgent calls will be co-located within the same police station as the Community Beat Officers wef 23/01/05. In our case that will be Howdenhall and should lead to greater team cohesion and a greater degree of influence by the local management team.

A 2nd phase review of the role of the Community Beat Officers is currently on-going and we will report on this in due course.

