

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



ISSUE 21 – May 2006

'Working in Partnership for a Safer City'

C
I
T
Y
W
I
D
E

Safer Scotland, Safer Edinburgh

The **Safer Scotland** anti-violence initiative was launched on 03 April 2006 with Scottish police forces joining together to tackle violence on our streets.

Over the past four weeks 131 outstanding judicial warrants have been executed for crimes of violence across the Capital, with individuals wanted in connection with 1 attempt murder, 6 serious assaults, 103 minor assaults and 21 offences involving the possession of knives or offensive weapons all now arrested.

The commitment shown by officers working across the City accounted for 17% of the total number of warrants effected across Scotland during the initial phase of the campaign and builds on the success of the past year, which recorded a 16% fall in violent crime across Edinburgh, down to the lowest level for three years.

Chief Superintendent Allan Shanks, Divisional Commander

Think Safe, Be Safe

The next phase of the Safer Scotland campaign will feature policing activities designed to tackle violent crime involving the use of knives. Between 24 May and 30 June 2006 a knife amnesty will make recycle bins available in police stations across the Capital to facilitate the safe surrender of knives and weapons.

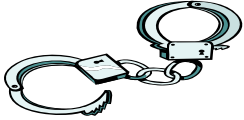
Socialising and the immoderate consumption of alcohol can often lead to a loss in self-control or confrontation. Simple precautions make violence preventable and not inevitable.

- **NEVER** carry a weapon, even for your own protection - it is a criminal offence
- Avoid eye contact with strangers and resist the urge to get involved in arguments
- Cross the street to avoid threatening people or groups
- Discourage friends from getting involved in volatile situations
- Make your own choices - don't let others "egg you on"
- In the event of trouble, think about your escape route and any safe haven from where you can seek help
- Moderate your drinking - stay in control & keep your wits about you

T
O
T
O
N
O
O
S

Ward 56 – Gilmerton

Welcome to this monthly newsletter, which is designed to give you an idea of local policing issues relevant to your area. It is compiled by PC Eric McLeod your local Community Beat Officer covering the area from Malbet estate to Candlemaker Park estate. There were 87 crimes reported in April which include incidents ranging from Road Traffic Offences to the well publicised Attempted Murder of a local male in Gilmerton Dykes.



CRIME

Malicious damage continues to be a problem throughout the area. Gilmerton Primary School in Moredun Dykes Road has unfortunately always been a target of mindless acts of vandalism, however, in recent weeks the incidents have become more common. The schools CCTV system has been extensively damaged and numerous windows smashed. There is also a trend developing with groups of youths congregating in the school grounds and consuming alcohol. If youths are seen in the grounds out with school hours and acting disorderly, please contact the police with information/descriptions of those responsible.

Break-ins, including attempted break-ins to domestic property totalled three. One of these included a quad bike stolen from a garage in Greenend. The vehicle was later recovered. Enquiries are ongoing to trace the culprit.

FURTHER FREE ADVICE ON HOME SECURITY CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT.

Tools and satellite navigation systems have been targeted in vehicles. The Gilmerton Dykes area had most instances of these thefts. Whenever possible owners are advised to put temptation out of the would be thief's way and lock items out of view and/or invest in better security for their vehicles. A male has been reported for stealing a van in Drum Street. Two vehicles stolen from Hyvots Avenue and East Kilngate Wynd have been recovered. An alarm fitted to a scooter deterred thieves in Carnbee Crescent.

DRUGS

Following a major drugs operation, a male from Gilmerton was reported for numerous drugs offences.

If you have any information regarding these crimes or crime in general contact the police or CRIMESTOPPERS on 0800 555 111 All calls are treated in confidence.

MISCELLANEOUS

A male from Hyvots has been reported for failing to keep his pet dog under control and allowing it to roam the streets.

Approximately 30 residents from Carnbee estate attended a meeting at Gracemount High School when the options of setting up a Residents Association and further Neighbourhood Watches were discussed.

Youth calls sadly figure highly on the number of calls received by the police to the South LPA. Gilmerton is not the worst area for youth calls however the police - the Youth Action Team, Community Safety Unit and Community Beat/Patrol Officers, along with our partner agencies in the Housing Department i.e.the Community Safety Concierge and Neighbourhood Response Teams, are taking whatever action we can to tackle the issue.

Youths identified as being involved in anti-social behaviour are issued with a "Making The Difference" form and a Parental Advisory Letter is sent to the home address, highlighting the incident to the parent/guardian. This is the first stage in a process which could potentially lead to an Anti-Social Behaviour Order being granted or a council tenant being evicted.

Alcohol is a major factor in youth related anti-social behaviour. So far this year YAT and SCU officers have submitted three reports against off-sales for underage sales. In April these officers confiscated almost 90 litres of lager, 26 litres of alco-pop, 24 litres of cider and 14 litres of wine. YAT officers are also involved with the local High Schools giving inputs on issues surrounding alcohol. The main problem is adults buying alcohol for those underage. If you know who the offenders are then let us know.

ITS YOUR COMMUNITY, HELP US TO KEEP IT SAFE BY PASSING US INFORMATION.

Contact Numbers

PC Eric McLeod

E-Mail: eric.mcleod@lbp.pnn.police.uk

PC Steven McGill

E-Mail: steven.mcgill@lbp.pnn.police.uk

INSPECTOR Stephen Paul

E-Mail: stephen.paul@lbp.pnn.police.uk

HOWDENHALL POLICE STATION

Tel No. 0131-666-2222

Fax No. 0131 672 1787

COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT

0131-221-2050 / 2100



And Finally....

The murder within the Marmion Public House is still being investigated and you will have noticed an increase of high visibility uniformed police officers within the Gilmerton and Hyvots Bank area.

This will continue in an effort to offer reassurance to the local community and will be de-escalated in due course.

If you have any information with regard to this incident, no matter how trivial, you may feel it is, please contact us as soon as possible.

