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A Division

Community and Neighbourhood Watch News - Ward 02

Lothian and Borders
POLICE



ISSUE 35 – July 2007

'Working in Partnership for a Safer City'

Public Safety – Terror Threat Moves Closer to Home

CITY
WARD

The country is currently on high alert in connection with a number of incidents that have occurred over the past few days. The Lothian and Borders area remains a safe and secure place to live and for people to go about their business. No specific threats have been made against any site within the Force area, however we are taking every step possible to secure the safety of the people we serve.

I want to reassure you that we are doing everything in our power to keep the public safe. We, along with police forces across the country, are currently reviewing our policing and security plans to ensure that they are commensurate with the new threat level and that all police activity is proportionate to that level.

Extra high visibility patrols are taking place throughout the force including the main transport routes in and out of Edinburgh. There has also been an increase of armed officers patrolling Edinburgh Airport.

I want to take this opportunity to ask everyone to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to police. Hate crime or crimes of disorder will not be tolerated and anyone who feels that they are a victim should contact us. Anyone with any information or concerns can contact Lothian and Borders Police on 0131 311 3131 or Crimestoppers in Confidence and complete anonymity on 0800 555 111.

Divisional Commander – Chief Superintendent George Simpson

Don't be a Victim of Crime this Summer

TOP
TOWNS

It's the time of year when we are (hopefully) enjoying the sun in our gardens or going off on holiday.

A prevalent crime at this time of year is what the police call a 'slip in' theft. This can be committed in a number of ways. The most common being when you are in the garden, the thief slips into your house through an insecure door or window and steals your valuables. Similarly, if it is a nice day and you leave windows or doors insecure while you go about your business inside the house. REMEMBER it only takes a second to slip in and steal cash, credit cards, jewellery, a digital camera, an MP3 player, laptop and even your car.

To avoid becoming a victim be vigilant and take the following easy steps:

- If you are in your back garden make sure that your front door is locked and secured, not just the yale lock. These are easy to slip open and for someone to sneak in and steal your valuables.
- Make sure that the windows at the front of your house are also locked and secured for the same reasons.
- If you have a conservatory or patio doors at the rear of your home it is important to secure them to prevent anyone slipping in whilst you cut the grass with your noisy lawnmower or are working in your garden.

Further pointers for those going away on holiday this summer:

- When you go on holiday, contact the post office to suspend your mail so it's not lying behind your door or sticking out the letterbox. Same with any newspapers you have delivered.
- Ask a trusted neighbour, friend or family member to keep an eye on your house for you. They might even be willing to come in and close your curtains at night, open them in the morning and make your house appear occupied.
- Fit timer switches to internal lights, BUT NOT JUST IN YOUR HALLWAY, who sits in their hallway?
- Make sure all windows and doors are securely locked and put the keys somewhere out of sight. Key hooks in the hall that you hang the car keys, spare house keys, garage keys, shed keys and every other sort of key that you have ever possessed are a gift for thieves! Put all of your keys somewhere secure and out of sight.
- If you have a house alarm, use it! If it is monitored by an alarm company tell them you are on holiday.

If you take the above steps you will more than likely have a crime free summer. Unfortunately I can't offer any such reassurances regarding the weather.

Ward 02 - Currie / Juniper Green / Hermiston

Here is the Currie / Juniper Green / Hermiston July newsletter covering activity from the 1st to the 30th June 2007.



NUMBER PLATE SECURITY

There has been a noticeable rise in the number of thefts of number plates particularly in the Balerno area. Here is some information that may be helpful to you.

There are a number of ways to prevent the theft of number plates with a number of commercially freely available products on the market, e.g.

Anti Theft Number Plate Security Screws consisting of screws and a special tool to remove them (approx £6),



or

special non-returning screws (approx. £2.50 per pack).



These are readily available by mail order from sites easily found on the internet.

VANDALISM

The Pentland Medical centre, Currie Primary School and surrounding shops and businesses have been the subject of a large number of complaints regarding vandalisms, youth and disturbance calls. I would urge anyone who sees any trouble ongoing in the area to call us straight away. Also if you see youths in possession of alcohol, again please call.

- 22nd – Lanark Road West – smashed windows
- 20th – 21st – Dolphin Avenue – smashed window
- 13th – Weavers Knowe Crescent – smashed window
- 1st – 10th – Dolphin Gardens – smashed window
- 1st – Corslet Place – damage to a car
- 1st – Pentland Place – damage to car
- 1st – 2nd – Palmer Road – damage to car

ASSAULT

On the 13th a male was assaulted by a group of 3 males whilst in Curriehill Road. The males are described as:

1. **male, white, 17 – 18 years, 6'3, heavy build, short brown hair with blonde tips with a hearts football scarf round his face.**
2. **male, white, 17 – 18 years, heavy build, 6'3, black Nike tracksuit, short brown hair.**
3. **male, white, 17 – 18 years,**

THEFT OTHERS

On the 11th in Muirwood Road the complainer had her handbag stolen after putting it down for a couple of minutes. She was distracted in conversation and on checking it minutes later found it had been stolen.



THEFT PEDAL CYCLE.

On the evening of the 6th a pedal cycle was stolen from premises in Nether Currie Crescent.

On the 5th a pedal cycle was stolen from a house in Lanark Road. It was later recovered during a drugs search at premises not far from the locus of the theft.

THEFT MOTOR VEHICLE.

Between the 28th April and the 18th June a motorbike was stolen whilst the complainer was out the country. It has since been recovered.

THEFT SHOPLIFTING

On the 1st a group of youths entered a premises in Juniper Green and stole a quantity of coke.

THEFT HOUSEBREAKING

Overnight on the 28th an attempt was made to enter the garage and shed of premises in Kirkgate. The locks held and no entry was gained. The same premises were also the subject of a break-in 2 days later when an amount of photographic equipment was stolen.

On the 14th there was an attempt to enter premises in Easter Currie Terrace.

During the day on the 7th a dwelling in Woodhall Terrace was entered via the patio door. This was the 2nd time in a week that the premises had been targeted and a quantity of jewellery was stolen.

On the 5th a garage in Baberton Avenue was entered by unknown means. A pedal cycle was stolen.



A male was disturbed in premises in Belmont Road on the 6th but made good his escape. He is described as:

Male, white, slim build, 5'10, wearing a dark green / grey parka style waterproof long sleeved padded jacket.

THEFT OLP MOTOR VEHICLE

Overnight on the 28th a car was broken into whilst parked in a car park in Lanark Road West. It is believed the suspects were looking for a GPS. Unfortunately the complainers were on holiday from Holland.



A car was entered on the 13th whilst parked in Currie Train station car park

A car radio was stolen from a car parked in Heriot Watt University on the 13th.

Overnight on the 5th a car was entered in Belmont Road. A mobile phone was stolen.

SIZE OF THE NEWSLETTERS

The amount of content in the newsletter was brought up when on my last beat and has sprung up again. The information goes out to a number of co-ordinators who in turn have to photocopy the pages and then send them out. Obviously the fewer pages used the better. I propose the following changes. I will send out the newsletters in word and PDF format as usual in the typical format. I will also copy the incidents only, minus pictures, front page and 'and finally' section onto a shortened newsletter and send this out in word and PDF format. This should essentially be no more than 2 pages and easily photocopied back to back onto one page. If co-ordinators still wish to keep costs down please consider the collation of email addresses and dissemination by these means.

If you have any comments on this please let me know. You will receive the cut down version this month.

SOLVED CRIMES

On the 25th a 42 year old male was charged following a driving offence in Curriehill Road.

Following an incident in Forthview Crescent in the early hours of the 24th a 42 year old male was arrested and charged with numerous offences including breach of the peace, minor assault, police assault and resisting arrest.

A 14 & 15 year old male have been arrested following a housebreaking in Riccarton Mains Road.

Following a roadside stop a 49 year old male was charged with motoring offences, a breach of the peace and resisting arrest.

A 16 year old male has been charged with assault following an incident in Forthview Crescent.

On the 12th in Lanark Road West, 2 males aged 20 and 21 were charged with possession of cannabis.



FOLLOWING ON FROM MY RECENT COMMUNICATION. THERE APPEAR TO BE FAKE £20 NOTES IN CIRCULATION. PLEASE MAKE SURE WHEN CHECKING CHANGE THAT NOTES ARE AUTHENTIC.

CONTACT NUMBERS

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E-Mail: adivcbooxgangs-balerno@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Sergeant Sam Butler

E-Mail – sam.butler@lbp.pnn.police.uk

BALERNO POLICE STATION

0131- 449 5991

COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT

Caroline Hope - 0131 622 2429

ADivSaferCommunitiesPCPentlands@lbp.pnn.police.uk

WEST EDINBURGH YOUTH ACTION TEAM

adivyatwest@lbp.pnn.police.uk

0131 442 2626

Inspector Sue Wilson

E-Mail: susan.wilson@lbp.pnn.police.uk

AND FINALLY

The following website has loads of information on Britain Wide initiatives ongoing. Definitely worth a look.

If you can't follow the link below then go to

www.crimereduction.gov.uk

crimereduction.gov.uk

providing information and resources for
people working to reduce crime in their local area.

