

# A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News



ISSUE 56 - April 2009

## 'Work With Us'

### Divisional Commanders Message

CITY

The Easter period and school holidays can bring challenges for officers in A Division and have in the past signalled a rise in certain types of crime such as vandalism and anti-social behaviour in its various forms. Whilst acknowledging that the overwhelming majority of young people throughout Edinburgh act and behave very responsibly we need to be ready to react to any such incidents. A Division officers are working hard to combat this by engaging with young people through a variety of means and, together with our partners and local groups, are organising a range of diversionary activities across the city to encourage young people to use their holiday to explore new interests and to stay safe and healthy.

WIDE

One of our key priorities for 2009/2010 will be to promote crime prevention, both in the strategic sense of this being a Lothian and Borders Police force priority and, more importantly, at the local level. While we have always stressed the importance of taking measures to keep yourself and your property safe, the Force has recognised that we must strive to do more in conjunction with local people in communities and our main partners such as the City of Edinburgh Council. Along with the diversionary activities previously mentioned, we are looking at a raft of preventative measures across our local policing priorities as well as listening to the concerns of local people and groups. All of this activity, together with the continuous hard work of our reactive patrol and investigative officers, is intended to prevent giving criminals the opportunity to commit crime against people and their property

Chief Superintendent Colin Campbell

### A Budding Time for Crime

TOT  
TODDERS

Spring has arrived and with it the 'traditional' visits from the Bogus Worker fraternity so be prepared.

It is nice for friends to point out that your hedge and grass needs cutting!

But what of the unexpected knock at the door...?

- **'Cold Callers'/Bogus Workmen** turn up on the doorstep unannounced - with good excuses such as 'just happen to be working the area' 'you have some loose slates!' Don't let any casual caller do any work on your property; be that gardening; roofing or laying/repairing your drive. Most reputable companies do not operate in this manner. Thank them and inform them that your tradesman will look at it.
- **What do Bogus Workmen look like?** They are usually very plausible people dressed for the part.
- **Who is at risk from them and when?** They tend to prey on the more vulnerable in society and will usually call through the day.
- **What can you do?** Be prepared. Are you expecting someone to call? Check the person on the doorstep is genuine; most service providers carry identification, use the phone book to get the telephone number to contact the company to confirm.
- **Be a good neighbour** – keep an eye on those who could possibly be a victim of 'Bogus Callers'. If suspicious persons are in the area - phone the police – give as good a description of them as you can including the registration number, make/model, and colour of any vehicle involved.

# Ward 02 - Currie / Juniper Green / Hermiston

Here is the April newsletter covering activity from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.

This months newsletter is coming to you like buses. You wait ages for one and they then arrive in quick succession. Apologies for the late arrival of last months, it was completely outwith my control.

I intend to send out the official one as normal and re-introduce the cut down version which, all going well, will be sent out in the first week of the month.

Firstly however, I bring you good news... Normally within the newsletter area there are about 30 – 40 or so reported crimes. I have just logged onto the computer to see what's been happening and start compiling the newsletter and can happily report that last month there were only 16 reported crimes. Lets hope this downward trend continues.

## CRIMES AGAINST PREMISES

Between the 26<sup>th</sup> / 27<sup>th</sup> a couple of premises in the Riccarton campus were entered. An ipod and a laptop were stolen.

During the night on the 13<sup>th</sup>, a dwelling house in Dolphin Road was entered and car keys stolen. The thieves then made off with the complainers car.

## VANDALISM

- 22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, Easter Currie Terrace, smashed window.
- 19<sup>th</sup>, Riccarton Mains Road, smashed window.
- 13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, Lanark Road West, 6 windows smashed.
- 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup>, Thomson Crescent, windows smashed.



## THEFT PEDAL CYCLE

Between the 24<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> a pedal cycle was stolen from the rear of a premises in Dolphin Avenue. The bike was secured with a chain which was found to have been cut. The bike is described as: **Gary Fisher make, males bike, silver in colour with front and rear suspension and disc brakes all round.**

## THEFT OTHERS

Overnight on the 24<sup>th</sup>, Baberton Golf club had all its flags stolen from the course.

During the night on the 13<sup>th</sup> an amount of timber was stolen from the rear of a premises in Pentland Place.

## **BOGUS WORKMEN**

Please be aware that there is a male purporting to be a gardener who is offering grass cutting services for £20 - £40 who, once he has the cash, makes off with the complainers money without cutting any grass.. This happened to an elderly person in Weavers Knowe Crescent on the 24<sup>th</sup>. The male is described as: **40 – 50 years of age, 5'8, wearing a high-viz jacket and a black woolly hat.**

## **AUTOCRIME**

In the early hours of the 11<sup>th</sup>, there was an attempt to steal a car parked in the driveway. The locks were forced and there was then an attempt to hot-wire the vehicle.

A car parked in Baberton Avenue was entered on the 8<sup>th</sup>, and a sat-nav stolen.

Again on the 8<sup>th</sup> a car was entered in Juniper Avenue and a sat-nav stolen.

## **SOLVED CRIMES**

On the 14<sup>th</sup> a female was charged with being drunk whilst in charge of a child.

On the 10<sup>th</sup> a 39 year old male was cautioned and charged with BOP following an incident at a Currie pub.

## **TRAFFIC CHECKS**

Last week I was joined by 2 traffic wardens from the Chambers Street office who assisted in high visibility road checks in the Currie and Balerno area.

During the checks one driver was reported for breaking the speed limit and 3 others were warned for other less serious motoring mistakes.

I hope to continue this partnership working. If there are any streets in the area that you feel are dangerous due to speeding drivers, please get in touch.



## **INCIDENTS REPORTED TO THE POLICE**

During the month there were 129 incidents logged by the police in respect of the ward. Of these, 5 were Graded 1, i.e. emergencies, 45 Graded 2 i.e. non-emergencies but should be responded to within one hour. 40 were graded 3, 19graded 4 and 20 were graded 5 and didn't require police attendance.

## CONTACT NUMBERS

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## ANY FINALLY

### CYCLE MAINTENANCE COURSE

Last month Stevie Aitken, the CBO from Balerno and myself went on a cycle maintenance course at the Bike Station.



The bronze course now allows us to go round schools / community groups and carry out basic checks and repairs to the bikes. I am starting at Nether Currie in a few weeks time and will be organising other events throughout the summer. Also at the Currie Fair this year I will be there again carrying out bike MOT's and basic cycle maintenance. If you have any questions or need a bike looking at please give me a shout.

In the next couple of weeks I will be purchasing tools and bike stands to assist with the maintenance with funding provided by the police.

