

# A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News



ISSUE 65 –January 2010

## 'Work With Us'

### Divisional Commanders Message



A New Year brings with it a new Commander, and I am delighted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you. After 18 months in charge of the Safer Communities Department at Headquarters, I am taking over as the Divisional Commander of Edinburgh. During my 23 years with Lothian and Borders Police, I have enjoyed a range of different posts, both in uniform and CID duties, and have previously worked at Howdenhall, St Leonard's, Gayfield, and Leith police stations in the city, as well as postings in Mid, East and West Lothian. I have also been seconded to the Scottish Crime and Drug Enforcement Agency, based in Strathclyde, for over three years.

I am really looking forward to getting out and about in the city to see for myself the extent of community engagement that is going on every day at a local level.

Community Beat Officers are crucial to achieving our aim of understanding and addressing local issues, and I am keen to push ahead with the emphasis on prevention and problem solving approaches.

As in previous years, Edinburgh has hosted a wide range of events over the festive period, and police officers and staff have worked hard to keep crime levels low and anti-social behaviour to a minimum. The extensive planning for the policing of the Hogmanay celebrations paid off again this year, with the low level of arrests reflecting the good natured atmosphere and friendly relationship between the public and the police.

I look forward to contributing to the policing of this diverse and dynamic city, and maintaining its high attraction as a safe place to live, work and visit.

**Chief Supt Gill Imery, 'A' Division Commander**

CITY  
WIDE

### Theft Of Your Christmas Presents

Favourite items for thieves are gadgets like mobile phones, laptops, MP3 players and satellite navigation systems.

I'm sure many of you were lucky enough to get one of these items for Christmas.

They are most vulnerable when on view in your car so don't leave luggage or valuables on display. Even an old coat or cigarette packet can be a temptation for someone to smash and grab. Car thieves steal first and think about value later. Take valuables with you or lock them in the boot out of sight. Don't be tempted to hide things under the seats or leave them in the glove box.

Thieves are innovative and latest scams include:

- Using a mobile phone with Bluetooth capability to scan your vehicle or home for any items you may have with Bluetooth enabled, then breaking in and helping themselves. So even though you have gone to the trouble to lock your valuables in the boot, they can be detected. **DISABLE YOUR BLUETOOTH BEFORE YOU LEAVE.**
- Satellite Navigation systems are highly sought after and criminals look for the sucker mark that is left on the inside of the windscreen when it is removed, then break in on the off chance that you've hidden the unit in the car. **CLEAN THE TELL TALE MARK AND TAKE YOUR SAT NAV WITH YOU.**

And finally...

- Picture if you will, a snowy or frosty winter morning in January. You leave the house to find your car windows frozen so you open up, turn on the engine and fire up the heater. This may take a while so you retire to the house to finish your cup of coffee. When you return to the car, it's not there!

HOT  
TOPICS

## **LOCAL NEWS**

### **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

I hope you all had an enjoyable time during the festive period.

Over the coming year should you or any of your friends or neighbours have any thoughts or concerns about community issues, or would like to be included on the mailing list for the Newsletter please let me know.

As mentioned last year, I am delighted to start this year's Newsletter on a good note again. During the month of December, there were 21 crimes reported to the Police with 7 of these being solved. There were no domestic house breakings reported. However, there was an attempt made to enter a property in Kingsburgh Road. Culprit/s removed a door handle and splintered wood around the door but no entry was gained. However, this is no time to be complacent with the dark nights and mornings still upon us, thieves are still active during this time trying to help themselves to your presents you acquired over Christmas.

Over the previous 12-month period the Police and Community alike within the Murrayfield sector have met a number of local challenges with great success. This being said it is important that we maintain a focused approach over the coming 12 month period to ensure the Community continue to experience a decrease in volume crime. This aim can, without doubt be achieved by concentrating our efforts and working together with Community Members, Partnership Agencies and Local Associations.

### **ITEMS OF INTEREST**

An area of focus is the cycle-ways. This matrix of interconnected former urban railway lines (Roseburn to Craighleith) is unfortunately a magnet for anti social behaviour and criminal activity. Since 2007 Community Beat Officers along with Neighbourhood Action Unit Officers (NAU) have concentrated a proportion of patrol activity along the walkways to reduce criminal anti social behaviour and make persons feel safer.

I can report that the number of police related calls to the cycle-ways has reduced significantly. To continue, and progress this positive action, the Safer West Problem Solving initiative will continue during 2010. Police will be working with partners to reduce criminality and anti social behaviour

I am pleased to report that the number of reported crimes continues to fall. I am aware that some members of the Community do not report minor crimes and would encourage you to do so. This will enable the police to build up an accurate picture of crime in the area.

PC Prince Durant Murrayfield CBO.

## Useful Numbers

**Corstorphine Police Station:0131 311 3131**

**Inspector Andrew Gilhooley**  
[andrew.gilhooley@lbp.pnn.police.uk](mailto:andrew.gilhooley@lbp.pnn.police.uk)

**Sgt Liz Duthie**  
[elizabeth.duthie@lbp.pnn.police.uk](mailto:elizabeth.duthie@lbp.pnn.police.uk)

**PC Prince Durant                      Ext 2836**  
[prince.durant@lbp.pnn.police.uk](mailto:prince.durant@lbp.pnn.police.uk)

**All Community Beat Officers can be  
contacted on Extensions    2834/2835/2836**

## And Finally....

At the start of a new year we look to build on some of the positive results from the previous year and strive to make our communities safer.

We do this by working with you, the Local Authority and various other groups to try and provide solutions to some of the problems in the area. We do not have a magic wand to make things better over night but will continue to work towards improvement. Anti Social Behaviour is generally committed by a small minority of young people out with the knowledge of their parents. It must be stressed, the over whelming majority of young people are well behaved, however it is essential parents take responsibility for the conduct of their children.

The West of Edinburgh still remains a safe place to live and has fairly low crime figures. The efforts of the local communities, partners and Police have made a significant contribution to this. I can assure all residents we will continue to work together and try and improve things further.

Inspector Gilhooley Sector Inspector

