

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News



ISSUE 69 – June 2010

'Work With Us'

Divisional Commanders Message

CITY
WIDE



World Cup fever is almost upon us, and Lothian and Borders Police are prepared for a busy few weeks throughout the competition. Supporters are likely to descend onto the Capital's pubs and clubs to watch the matches and enjoy the good natured atmosphere in the city centre. We have a strict plan in place to make sure our licensed premises are supported throughout the period, and will be conducting regular checks and patrols to ensure the city remains a safe place to visit, live, and work in. We are heavily involved in the Scottish Government's National

Violence Prevention Plan, and a key aspect of this is ensuring that people who are out socialising do so safely and without causing disruption.

Officers from our Safer Communities department have organised a 'mini World Cup' with children from the Royal High School in the city. Fifth year pupils, as well of some of our fitter police officers, will be representing the various nations taking part and holding a series of matches. The winning team will receive a handsome cup kindly donated by the West Edinburgh Community Safety Panel. These events are excellent ways for our officers to take part in diversionary activities and engage with young people in an informal environment and best of luck to all involved!

Chief Supt Gill Imery, A Division Commander

Summer "Slip In" Thefts

HOT
TOPICS

At this time of year we regularly notice a rise in the number of "Slip In" thefts. These are committed in a number of ways; the most common being when you are in the garden and the thief slips into your house through an insecure door or window and steals your valuables. Similarly if it's a nice day and you leave windows or doors insecure whilst you go about your business inside the house you are leaving your property open to criminals.

Remember, it only takes a second to slip in and steal cash, credit cards, jewellery, digital camera, MP3 player, laptop or even your car.

If you are in your back garden, make sure that your front door is locked and secured, not just on the Yale lock as these are easy to overcome. Similarly 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're working in your garden. In the rare event that we experience a particularly warm and pleasant summer, do not be tempted to leave your windows open when you're out of the house. Open windows can be an invitation to thieves and **always** remember to keep your car keys safe. Modern cars are virtually impossible to steal without the true key so don't leave them lying around in vulnerable areas. Keep your keys with you or secure them in a safe place, not on a key hook or near the front door.

Dean

A car window was smashed whilst parked in a driveway in East Fettes Avenue and several vehicles in the area have been the subject of petty vandalism and bike thieves struck again when a pedal cycle was stolen whilst locked and secured in a common stair in Learmonth Crescent.

PC John Tod – Dean Community Beat Officer

Craigleith

A house in Davidson Road was broken into where the homeowners' teenage son came home to find two males in the rear garden. The police were contacted and the suspect was caught hiding on top of a dormer roof space after making his way onto the roof on seeing police. On 20th May at Craigleith Hill Park the occupant disturbed someone within the house who made off, police traced and arrested the culprit in Telford Road in possession of stolen property. Property recovered implicated him to another break in which had not yet been reported. The same suspect was also disturbed and prevented from committing a break in when the occupier on hearing a noise turned on the rear security light. Showing the benefit of such a reasonably cheap security device. A theft slip in occurred where a handbag was stolen from within a house in Craigcrook Road - no one was seen - entry was suspected to have been gained through a dining room window which was left open over night due to the "better weather".

PC Alan Millar – Craigleith Community Beat Officer

Stockbridge

There were break-ins to homes in Raeburn Place, Hamilton Place, Inverleith Avenue and Eildon Street, where the method used was to force the front door, which in many of the cases were only secured by a cylinder rim lock (commonly known as a 'Yale' lock). This highlights the need to ensure that if you have a mortice lock please make sure that you use it. The warm weather also brings a tendency for many people to leave doors and windows open and I would ask that you all make sure that you have checked that you have secured your premises when you retire for the evening. Lets not make it easy for the opportunist thief. There were bicycles stolen from Deanhaugh Street and Hamilton Place, but our search and recovery team are making headways into the thefts of bicycles throughout the City.

PC Greig Stephen – Stockbridge Community Beat Officer

Drylaw

Houses in Drylaw Crescent, House O Hill Grove, Corbiehill Avenue and Drylaw House Gardens were the garden shed was also broken into during May, although culprits have been identified in some of these cases. Garden sheds are another vulnerable area and I would urge those of you with such a facility to consider its security where often tools are available with ease. A youth was arrested after riding a motorcycle in a reckless manner in the Easter Drylaw area and in other parts of the Inverleith and Forth areas.

Useful Numbers

Community Beat Officers (CBO's)

Community Beat Officers Inverleith Sector.

Craigeith: PC Alan Millar
alan.millar@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Dean: PC John Tod
john.tod@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Stockbridge: PC Greig Stephen
greig.stephen@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Drylaw: Currently Vacant

Officer in Charge of Inverleith Sector
Inspector Ian Davis
ian.davis@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Police Telephone Numbers

Force Communication Centre
(All City Police Stations)

0131 311 3131

Crimestoppers:

0800 555 111

Environmental Wardens:

0131 469 5328

or email env.wardens@edinburgh.gov.uk

And Finally....

Break-ins to vehicles – having recently undertaken a study into this type of crime in the area, in almost all cases of cars being broken into the owner/driver has left an item be it a bag, rucksack, Sat-Nav etc on display. It takes a thief no time at all to smash and grab from a vehicle and rarely are they put off by an alarm. Don't give them a chance and if you must stow items in the boot or take them with you. The following is good advice:

- ☞ Disconnect SAT NAV, take it with you.
- ☞ Remove the suction mounted fitting from the windscreen, clean the ring off it may leave. It shows thieves you may have a SAT NAV.
- ☞ Note the serial number of your Sat Nav, keep the information safe.
- ☞ Security mark each part of your Sat Nav system with an ultraviolet marker.
- ☞ Consider registering your Sat Nav with a tracking agency, such as www.immobilise.com, a free service.
- ☞ Do NOT leave valuables, even out of sight in your car.
- ☞ Consider opening the parcel shelf and glove compartment to show there is nothing of value in the car.

