

LOOK-OUT

Currie East Neighbourhood Watch

www.cenw.org.uk

CENW Website

As you may be aware, CENW has a website containing lots of useful information related to Neighbourhood Watch. This includes advice on home security as well as links to useful resources and copies of all the recent Lookouts and Police newsletters.

There is an option to register to receive updates via email. This allows us to send you any alerts we may receive from the Police about activity in the area, as well as the regular Police community newsletter. This is a free service and the only information we require is an email address. If you have not already done so we would urge you to register as this provides a valuable communication channel to keep you informed.

The website address is: www.cenw.org.uk

Crimestoppers

Call anonymously with information about crime

Did you know?...

- Crimestoppers is not part of any Police Force.
 - Crimestoppers is a registered charity.
 - Crimestoppers takes calls from people who are frightened to call the Police, but want to report crimes.
 - Crimestoppers operates a language line.
 - Calling Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111** is free on a landline and will not appear on your phone bill. Calls are normally free from a mobile.
 - Your call is not recorded and cannot be traced.
 - You will not be called back for any reason.
 - You will not be asked to sign a statement, or go to a Police Station or Court.
 - You will not be asked to give your name or any personal details. It is what you know, not who you are, that is important.
 - Crimestoppers is “HEAR for you 24/7”.
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*Chairman's Corner**Tim Shepherd*

There are three different aspects I would like to address in this Chairman's Corner. The first is a pet subject of mine and is part of the programme of activities that the CENW committee is progressing to improve the NW signs throughout the Watch. We have now completed the rollout of the wheelie bin stickers and I hope that your wheelie bin is displaying a NW sign. If not, and you require a replacement, please contact me.

We [the CENW Committee] are now turning our attention to improving the coverage and replacing worn out NW street signs. Those of you who attended last year's AGM will remember that we discussed various options. Your committee has been exploring these and have decided to replace the worn out signs with a 'like for like' replacement. At the same time we are looking to double the number of signs in the watch area. The cost of this exercise is in the region of £2000 and we have applied for a grant from the Community Grants Fund to finance this.

This leads me on to my second item – finance. As you know CENW is financed by members' subscriptions which will be collected around the time of the distribution of this edition of Look-Out. The subscriptions this year will remain the same - £1 per household - which we use to finance normal CENW activities such as the cost of producing this newsletter, purchasing window and wheelie bin stickers, subsidising the purchase of personal alarms and many others. An advantage of being a member of an active Neighbourhood Watch is that most insurance companies will offer you a discount on house insurance.

My final item is a plea for help. CENW depends on the goodwill of members to volunteer to take on various activities without which the Watch could not function. Currently we must fill the following vacancies:

We need volunteers to be Street Distributors. You would distribute Look-Out to around 20 houses in your neighbourhood three times a year. On one visit you would collect subscriptions which are then passed to your Street coordinator. As you will see this is not an arduous task but the work performed is a critical activity. If you feel that you could spare around 4 hours per year doing this I would be more than happy to hear from you!!

Committee members – CENW is run by a committee which is elected at the AGM. The committee makes decisions on how the Watch should be progressed and plans future activities. We urgently need more watch members to volunteer to serve on the committee. The next meeting is on

Tuesday 5 May at 7.30pm in Currie Kirk House. If you are interested please come along to see how the committee operates.

The final vacancy is more critical as it affects the future viability of CENW. When CENW was formed nearly two years ago the constitution was changed so that the Chairman could not be in office for more than two years. My two years in office come to an end at the AGM in October and my successor will be the current Vice Chairman.

Understandably, the current Vice Chairman has intimated that, if the post of Vice Chairman which he is vacating is not filled at the time of the AGM, he will not take up the post of Chairman.

We are currently struggling to find someone willing to take on this role in October. If this situation persists it will mean that CENW would not be properly constituted and would have to be dissolved. The only qualification to be nominated for the post of Vice Chair is that you have to be a member of CENW.

I would ask you to consider all of the above vacancies. If you feel you could help or if you want more information please give me a call. (449 3454)

Police Report - November 2008 to January 2009

House-breaking:

- 16/11 Weavers Knowe Crescent – House entered via insecure back door.
- 13/01 Bryce Crescent - No details.

Vandalism:

- 01/01 Riccarton Grove - Damage to motor car.
- 03/01 Nether Currie Crescent - Damage to car bonnet.
- 09/01 Weavers Knowe Crescent - Cracked front window.
- 10/01 Bryce Road - Cracked window.
- 11/01 Riccarton Mains Road - Smashed window.
- 11/01 Bryce Road - Smashed window.
- 11/01 Riccarton Avenue - Smashed window.
- 12/01 Bryce Road - Damage to motor vehicle.

Other Crimes:

- 13/01 Riccarton Mains Rd. - Insecure garage entered, property stolen.
- 19/01 Riccarton Mains Rd. - iPod stolen from premises (tea-time).
- 20/01 Riccarton Mains Rd. - Cash stolen from premises.

Vehicle Crime:

- 08/01 Muir Wood Grove - Suzuki motor bike stolen from rear garden.
- 12/01 Muir Wood Road - Motor vehicle entered - sat-nav stolen.
- 13/01 Muir Wood Grove - Kawasaki stolen, recovered in Nether Currie Road.
- 20/01 Riccarton Avenue - Motor bike stolen, recovered in Saughton area.

Motor Vehicle Theft

Lothian and Borders Police

In recent months there has been a notable rise in the number of incidents of vehicles being stolen with their true keys.

Vehicles registered after 1996 (P) have been fitted with immobilisers as standard making keys essential for their theft. Are your car keys safe? Many criminals break into houses simply to steal car keys to steal the car outside. Cars have been known to disappear from petrol stations when drivers leave the keys in the ignition while paying for fuel.

You can limit the chances of losing your car by following this advice:

- If you have a garage, use it to store your vehicle.
- At home, use your locks and alarm system.
- Do not leave your car keys near the door of your house.
- Do not use an obvious key box/rack to store keys.
- Take your car keys to your bedroom at night.
- Ensure your spare car key is in a safe, secure place.
- Never leave your car keys within your car.

Look-out

Articles for inclusion in the Newsletter are welcomed. Copy for the next issue should be sent, as soon as possible, to the Editor at 31 Nether Currie Road, EH14 5HX, (Tel 449-5566) or by e-mail to:

lookout@cenw.org.uk

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The views expressed in this Newsletter do not necessarily represent the views held by the Editor or the Currie East Neighbourhood Watch scheme.



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