

LOOK-OUT

Currie East Neighbourhood Watch

www.cenw.org.uk

Message from the Chair

Margaret Michie

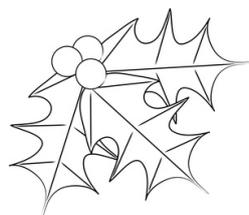
It was good to welcome PC Sol Fenne to the AGM at the end of October but worrying to hear of the number of recent house break-ins and slip-ins (entry through unlocked doors or windows). There were approximately 16 break-ins and 17 thefts (including slip-ins) as well as a number other incidents. The west side of Edinburgh seems to be the current target area.

If you notice any suspicious activity around the neighbourhood, please phone the police.

I attended the Neighbourhood Watch Scotland AGM in September and heard about the initiative to enable them and the Police and Fire Service to send relevant alerts to all registered individuals. Please visit *www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk* to learn more and to register.

Despite the sobering statistics of the police report we do live in a community that is relatively safe and secure for everyone.

I wish you all an enjoyable Festive Season.



You are the Neighbourhood Watch

Who or what is the Neighbourhood Watch? Whose job is it to keep an eye on the neighbourhood for you and report anything suspicious to the police? Whose job is it to deter burglars by making them feel conspicuous in a community where people look out for each other, rather than blending in anonymously? Whose job is it to look out for young children and elderly or vulnerable neighbours to ensure they don't become the victims of scams or other crimes?

It should be obvious that the answer to all these questions is ***you***. You, the residents of Currie, are the Neighbourhood Watch, not the CENW committee. Without your participation and involvement in the community, the Neighbourhood Watch is nothing but a talking shop. We would encourage you to get involved with CENW, even if just to let us know what's going on so we can pass this on to other members.

Recently when we had the snow, there were many examples of community spirit and good neighbourliness. Let's keep this up and ensure that Currie remains a community rather than just a housing estate.

Neighbourhood Watch Scotland

You may be interested to note that ***Neighbourhood Watch Scotland***, previously the ***Association of Scottish Neighbourhood Watches***, has updated their website with a new look and a new logo. On their website you can download their newsletter, view information about what's going on in the world of Neighbourhood Watch and register to receive alerts and other information from them.



www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk

Ready for Winter?

The severe winters of recent years reminded us all how weather can affect us. By taking a few simple steps, we can all save a lot of trouble later. Here's some advice from www.readyscotland.org to help you think about what steps you can take at home and in your community.

- Make your home more energy efficient, protect pipes, know how to turn off the water supply and keep a list of emergency contact numbers to hand
- Offer to help neighbours with grocery shopping or other essential tasks
- Clear ice or snow from your pathway (stock up on salt now)
- Your community can get prepared for severe weather by agreeing what you and your neighbours can do on your own and collectively to minimise the effects of severe weather
- You can volunteer to help others by contacting www.volunteerscotland.org.uk

You can find more information and advice at www.readyscotland.org and www.edinburgh.gov.uk/severeweather.

Dog fouling

Whilst most dog owners in Currie behave responsibly, there are still occasional occurrences of dog mess left on the pavement. One resident has brought this to our attention, fed up cleaning dog mess off their shoes and pram wheels, left by a repeat offender outside their property.

It is ***illegal*** not to clean up your dog's mess. If you are in charge of a dog, then it is your responsibility to clean up its mess. Anyone failing to do so may be given a Fixed Penalty Notice by the local council or by the police.

If you own a dog, please be considerate to other residents and ensure you always clean up after it.

CENW Children's Christmas Quiz

All answers can be found in the *Safer Communities Safer Scotland* booklet in your CENW information pack.

1. You use this to lock and secure your front door at all times.
2. You should keep the answer to question 1 where?
3. This can be used to make your house look occupied when you are out
4. Your possessions should be _ _ _ _ _ with a UV pen or etching.
5. The same missing word is used to fill in the blanks in the following sentence “_ _ _ _ it safe, _ _ _ _ it hidden, _ _ _ _ it locked”
6. Ladders should be kept both out of sight and _ _ _ _ _ to prevent them being used by thieves
7. Your family's car should always be kept _ _ _ _ _
8. Possessions in your car such as Christmas presents should be either kept out of sight in the boot or better still be _ _ _ _ _.
9. What should you do when away on holiday to your milk and newspaper deliveries?
10. Car keys should not be left on a ring in the door or visible on the kitchen work surface but should be what?

Look-Out is produced by a group of volunteers from the CENW Committee.

Articles for inclusion in the Newsletter are welcomed. Please send contributions via email to ***lookout@cenw.org.uk*** or contact the Chair (details below).

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