

LOOK-OUT

Currie East Neighbourhood Watch

www.cenw.org.uk

Message from the Chair

Margaret Michie

Welcome to the Spring Look Out. With the clocks having changed many of us will spend more time out of doors. Slip-ins appear to be on the increase so please keep doors locked whether you are indoors or outside. Longer daylight also increases the opportunity for Cold callers. If this concerns you we still have a supply of “we don’t buy at the door” stickers. Contact me if you would like one.

The committee continues to actively monitor all the planning applications in the area with the potential to impact our neighbourhood.

Despite the snow as I write this, I wish you all a pleasant and safe summer.

Subscriptions

Along with this copy of the Lookout you will receive a **fridge magnet** and **two key-rings**. We trust that you will find these items useful, providing ready access to important contact numbers. We would like to thank you for your continuing support of the Neighbourhood Watch through your annual subscription. It is now time for this to be collected and your distributor will be requesting the £1 per household as they deliver this issue of Lookout.

If you have any ideas for Neighbourhood Watch items you would wish to receive in the future, please let us know.

Police Telephone Numbers

A new non-emergency number is now available for you to contact the Police. **101** provides a convenient, easy to remember alternative to the local numbers for Police stations throughout Scotland. This is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. When you dial, the system determines your location and connects you to the Service Centre covering your area. The charge is a flat rate of 15p per call, whether from a land line or mobile.

In an emergency always dial 999. An emergency means someone is in immediate danger or a crime is taking place right now.

Alternatively you can contact *Crimestoppers* on **0800 555 111** if you want to report a crime anonymously.

Note that the current number for the Lothian and Borders Police Communications Centre, **0131 311 3131**, remains valid and can still be used to contact the police in our area. You may prefer to use this if you have free or inclusive calls as it is a local number.

Opportunists in Currie

On Saturday the 2nd of March one of our residents in Lanark Road West experienced an incident where they found an intruder in their back garden, who appeared to be “casing the joint”. When challenged, the young man said rather unconvincingly that he was trying to find his way to the Water of Leith walkway. Once given directions, he then instead proceeded along Lanark Road into Juniper Green. The same resident experienced a similar incident three months previously, also on a Saturday.

Another resident farther along Lanark Road West also experienced a similar incident on the same day, so it appears the individual was working his way along the road looking for easy pickings.

The police were contacted about these incidents and given a description of the man.

Please remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to the police.

Rogue Traders

The City of Edinburgh Trading Standards Department has received information regarding rogue traders using false addresses in Edinburgh on their business paperwork. Be cautious of people calling at the door telling you that work needs done on your home.

When contracting for work on your property, ensure that you know (and have written down):

- Exactly who you are dealing with (names and business names)
- Their address and telephone number
- What work will be undertaken
- What the total cost will be

Get competing quotes before agreeing to have work carried out, to make sure you really need it. Don't feel pressured into agreeing to get work done without due consideration, for example when offered a tempting discount for immediate acceptance.

Contact City of Edinburgh Trading Standards on 0131 529 3030 or trading.standards@edinburgh.gov.uk for further advice.

Crimestoppers - 25 years of success

The independent charity Crimestoppers, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary, has reported a 30% increase in intelligence reports since the "Made From Crime?" campaign launched across the area on 21st January 2013. A similar campaign that ran in the Lothian and Borders area in 2011 saw a 17% rise in reported information and allowed officers to target criminals in a series of raids across two days.

Lothian and Borders Police, Central Scotland Police, and Fife Constabulary are all taking part in this phase of the campaign, which is designed to make specific use of Proceeds of Crime Act legislation (POCA).

It asks members of the public to come forward and report their suspicions about people making money illegally.

Muir Wood Field

Regarding the proposed development of Muir Wood Field, the Scottish Government Directorate for Planning and Environmental Appeals, Falkirk, has appointed a reporter to deal with the appeal by Taylor Wimpey. The dates set for the Hearing are the 23rd and 24th April 2013 but at time of writing the place and time were yet to be advised.

A few local people have been invited to forward submissions and to attend the Hearing, along with Juniper Green Community Council and Currie Community Council. Objections already received will form part of these submissions.

Committee Meetings in 2013

Our committee meetings are open to all members. These are held in the Currie Kirk Meeting House on the following dates:

Monday 10th June 2013	7.30pm
Monday 9th September 2013	7.30pm
Monday 9th December 2013	7.30pm

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).

Look-out is published three times a year by Currie East Neighbourhood Watch.
Printed by St Cuthbert's Episcopal Church, Colinton.

Chair – Margaret Michie - Tel: 449 6587. Email: chair@cenw.org.uk

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