

# A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News



ISSUE 44 – April 2008

## 'Work With Us'

### Divisional Commanders Message

CITY

As I approach my retirement, I realise I have enjoyed every minute of my service and over the years I have had the opportunity to work with some fantastic people both within and outwith the force. I am particularly proud of the achievements in the past 18 months as Divisional Commander for Edinburgh. In the past year 3,200 fewer crimes have been committed across the city. That is 60 fewer crimes committed each week. This coupled with a solvency rate of 42% is a legacy of which I can be proud. This could never have been achieved without the dedication and hard work of front line and community officers and staff, along with those working in specialist units.

WIDE

I have seen partnership working across the city continue to develop to a position where we are now the envy of police forces across the country. The relationship we have with the City of Edinburgh Council and other agencies places us in a unique position where we can work together for the benefit of the people of Edinburgh and its visitors.

I am delighted that Chief Superintendent Colin Campbell will take on the role of Divisional Commander for A Division. I have known and worked closely with Colin for 27 years and I know he will continue to drive business forward with our partners and continue to support police officers and staff across the division as they face the ever increasing demands that will be placed upon them. I wish Colin and A Division all the best for the future.

**Chief Superintendent George Simpson**

HOT TOPICS

Now the lighter evenings are with us and, hopefully, warmer weekends many of us will be making the most of it and going for walks in the Edinburgh parks and surrounding countryside and beaches.

A word of caution however if you are going by car. Car parks in these outlying areas usually do not have the security offered by lighting, security staff or even passing drivers/walkers. Thieves who steal from cars are always looking for easy opportunities to steal when they are least likely to be seen and so take advantage of this.

There is a lot you can do to protect your car and property.

- Make sure you have closed all your windows and sunroof and locked all the doors
- If your car has an alarm, use it.
- Never leave driving documents in your car.
- Don't leave anything on display in your car.
- Take all your valuables with you when leaving the car or take them out and leave them at home before your journey. If you must leave valuables, lock them out of sight in the boot and disable any bluetooth.
- If you have a Satellite Navigation, always take it with you when leaving your car and remove any suction marks on the windscreen

The following devices will enhance the security of your car and help to put off car thieves: Steering lock, Alarm, Immobiliser and Locking wheel nuts.

More information on a range of these products is available on [www.soldsecure.com](http://www.soldsecure.com)

# Ward 02 - Currie / Juniper Green / Hermiston

Here is the March newsletter covering activity from the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008.

## HOUSEBREAKINGS

Between the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup> a business premises was entered by smashing the window, entering and stealing cash and hair equipment.



Between the 15<sup>th</sup> and the 16<sup>th</sup> there was a slip-in to a business premises in Lanark Road. A door was left open and a quantity of cash stolen.

On the 8<sup>th</sup> an insecure garage was entered in Thomson Grove and a quantity of alcohol stolen.

Between 17:35hrs and 17:50hrs there was an attempt to enter a premises in Baberton Crescent. 3 x 13- 15 year olds, bent back a garage door then attempted entry to a cellar before being disturbed.

In the early hours of the 6<sup>th</sup>, a premises at the rear of Heriot Watt campus was entered. The culprits cut a mental fence, cut off a padlock, entered and stole some power tools and kids toys. The alarm sounded and they made off.

A premises in Millbrae were entered on the 4th by using bodily pressure to force the front door. Once in, the culprits stole vehicle keys and then stole a white transit van which collided with a house. The culprits were tracked by police dog but eventually lost.

## THEFT PEDAL CYCLE

Overnight on the 4th – 5<sup>th</sup> a: **Black Specialized Hard Rock Pro Disc mountain bike** was stolen from the rear garden of a dwelling in Corslet Road.

## VANDALISM

- We have seen a significant rise in the number of vandalisms to both cars and premises.



We are liaising with partner agencies in order to tackle the problem. I will report back in future months with operations being implemented and further information.

## SOLVED CRIMES

On the 21<sup>st</sup>, a 29 year old male was arrested and charged with a minor assault.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> a male was charged with the theft of a jacket from a pub in Lanark Road. The complainer approached 2 males and requested they return his jacket. He was then assaulted by the two males.

A 22 year old male and a 17 year old male have been charged with a theft from Heriot Watt campus after a 12ft long metal pipe was stolen.

## CONTACT NUMBERS

**PC Mike Smith**

**E-Mail:** [adivcbooxgangs-balerno@lbp.pnn.police.uk](mailto:adivcbooxgangs-balerno@lbp.pnn.police.uk) (shared mailbox)

**Sergeant Chris Kowalski**

**E-Mail –** [chris.kowalski@lbp.pnn.police.uk](mailto:chris.kowalski@lbp.pnn.police.uk)

**Balerno Police Station**

0131- 449 5991

**Inspector Margaret Lyle**

**E-Mail:** [Margaret.lyle@lbp.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Margaret.lyle@lbp.pnn.police.uk)

**Community Safety Department**

Post being filled - 0131 622 2429

[ADivSaferCommunitiesPCPentlands@lbp.pnn.police.uk](mailto:ADivSaferCommunitiesPCPentlands@lbp.pnn.police.uk)

**West Edinburgh Youth Action Team**

[adivyatwest@lbp.pnn.police.uk](mailto:adivyatwest@lbp.pnn.police.uk)

0131 442 2626

## AND FINALLY

The spell of mild weather, which we have enjoyed recently, may have your thoughts turning to the garden, and the onset of spring! If you should be venturing out to tidy up, please bear in mind the following:

If you are working in the back garden or out of sight, ensure your front door is locked so the opportunist cannot get in.

Keep garage doors closed even if you are going backwards and forwards, open doors mean 'open house' to the thief.

And once you have finished for the day, ensure ALL your tools etc are safely locked in your shed with a stout closed shackle padlock. Garden tools such as spades and forks are often used by the opportunist to commit crime.

