

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News



ISSUE 67- March 2010

'Work With Us'

Divisional Commanders Message

CITY
WIDE



This month has seen the introduction of Safer Neighbourhood Teams in the South and East of the city, which is further evidence of our strong commitment to community policing. I am determined to build on the current levels of community engagement at a local level by improving our approach to identifying and prioritising issues, and addressing local concerns affecting our communities. I look forward to reporting on the progress of the Safer Neighbourhood Teams and am confident they will continue to uphold the proud traditions of responsive community policing within the city of Edinburgh.

Indeed, the value of meaningful community engagement and the importance of the role played by our Community Police Officers have been demonstrated on a number of occasions in recent weeks. High profile public events, for example the recent attempted march by members of the Scottish Defence League and counter-demonstration by Scotland United Against Facism, and serious operational incidents, such as the shooting at Jock's Lodge, continue to place varying demands on our policing service. I have been impressed and encouraged by the excellent work carried out to prepare for and respond to these demands, always keeping the safety and well being of our communities uppermost in our minds.

Chief Supt Gill Imery, A Division Commander

LEGAL HIGH SUPPLY

HOT
TOPICS

Legal Highs are a very hot topic in the national press at the moment. They are substances made from herbs, chemicals and extracts which imitate the effects of some illegal drugs such as LSD and ecstasy but are not controlled by the Misuse of Drugs or Medicines Acts.

Rather than being labelled as recreational drugs, many of these products are badged up as everyday products such as alloy wheel cleaner. The Legal High substance known as Mephedrone is regularly sold as plant food.

Little is known about the long-term effects of these substances due to the short history of human consumption but it should be noted that just because they are sold legally, it does not mean they are safe to use. There is anecdotal evidence available to suggest that use of Legal Highs has had detrimental effects on the health and well being of users.

Parents should be aware that due to recent press coverage and the potential risks involved with ingesting Legal Highs, many shops in Edinburgh that were retailing these substances have stopped selling products containing Mephedrone and other Legal Highs. This has served to increase user hype and some young people have taken to using their parent's or older siblings credit cards for purchasing Legal Highs online where they are more readily available and cheaper.

More information on Legal Highs can be found at:
www.crew2000.org.uk and www.talktofrank.com

Ward 02 - Currie / Juniper Green / Hermiston

Here is the March newsletter covering activity from the 1st to the 28th February 2010.

CRIME SUMMARY

This month saw 20 crimes recorded with 6 of them solved.

I just had a quick look back to crime figures for this time last year and saw that there were 46. Things are definitely a lot quieter nowadays, lets hope this downward trend continues.

INCIDENT SUMMARY



During the month there were 99 incidents logged by the police in respect of the ward. Of these, 6 were Graded 1, i.e. emergencies, 32 Graded 2 i.e. non-emergencies but should be responded to within one hour. 33 were graded 3, 9 graded 4 and 19 were graded 5 and didn't require police attendance.

CRIMES AGAINST PREMISES

On the 25th a local elderly vulnerable male was confronted by a group of youths from a local school who broke his shopping bag and stole items.

On the 25th there was an attempt made to enter a premises by removing the putty from the window surrounds. The window held in this instance.

VANDALISM

- 27th, Riccarton Drive, damage to motor vehicle.
- 21st, Forthview Road, smashed windows.
- 11th, Baberton Avenue, smashed window



THEFT OTHERS

On the 19th a wallet was stolen from a community premises whilst the complainer was on the internet. Please ensure that if you have had to remove any items from wallets or purses that you put them back in your pocket, jacket or handbag. Leaving these kind of items on open display is tempting fate.

On the 18th a mobile phone was stolen from a premises in Riccarton.

On the 3rd a premises in Riccarton was entered and a laptop and personal items stolen.

AUTOCRIME

On the 15th there was an attempt to hot wire a car parked in Blinkbonny.

THEFT SHOPLIFTING

On the 27th, 2 males entered a shop premises in Corslet Place and stole some food items. The males are described as:

1. male, white, 20 – 30, 5'8, short dark hair, wearing a blue and black jacket and he was wearing glasses.
2. male, white, 20 – 30, 5'6, carrying a green rucksac.

SOLVED CRIMES

A male and a female were identified for a theft housebreaking in Foulis Crescent after trying to pawn items stolen from the premises. This good arrest is a direct result of the police and business initiative Trade Watch Scheme.



Other solved crimes in the area include:

Theft others
Drink Driving
Attempt to pervert the course of justice
Failing to stop after an accident
&
Driving with no insurance

HOT TOPIC – PROTECT YOUR MOBILE PHONE

Mobile phone theft is common with young people being especially vulnerable. Using a mobile phone in a busy area advertises the fact that you have a desirable item and whilst talking on the phone, you are unaware of who might be watching you. Where possible, use them out of public view and somewhere where you can see what is happening around you. Many phones are stolen from pubs and nightclubs. Open handbags also prove tempting for thieves, as do rucksacks, coats left on chairs and phones left in vehicles.



Tips:

- Only make essential calls on the street.
- Security mark your phone with postcode and house number using a UV pen.
- Be discreet when using your phone and be aware of what is happening around you
- **Don't** use it in crowded situations where it can be easily snatched from you.
- **Don't** text while you walk
- **Don't** leave it unattended
- **Do** use the pin code facility
- **Don't** wear it on your belt where it can be snatched

If it gets stolen then report the theft to the Police and get the handset barred by phoning your network provider you will need your IMEI number to do this. In this way the handset is then useless to a thief

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ACT NOW ALL COMMUNITIES TOGETHER



Last week on the BBC there was a programme relating to the Prevent strand of the National Counter Terrorism Strategy CONTEST. One of the things discussed was 'Act Now' All Communities Together. Act Now is an interactive exercise, which places members of the community in the role of the police. You are presented with scenarios and asked to make judgments as to the most appropriate course of action.

You are placed into syndicates where you make decisions that shape the way the incident is investigated. You deal with the media, family members of those involved, other members of the community and deal with any other problems or issues that arise along the way.

I was lucky enough to attend one recently and the feedback I got from the community was very positive. If you feel you may be interested in attending such an event then please let me know and I'll feed back to the organisers.

