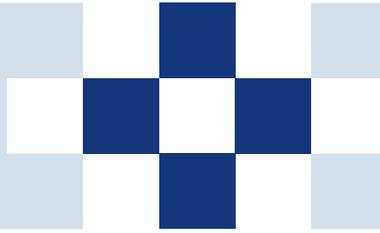


with
youfor
you

work with us to create a positive force in your community.



Ch Supt Gill Imery

Easter is traditionally a time when our policing focus changes slightly to incorporate the school holidays, and the challenges they bring. The holidays can signal a rise in certain types of crime, namely vandalism and anti social behaviour. Similarly, the start of British summer time and the lighter evenings means we can

often start to see a trend in seasonal crime, including bogus callers. Our local SNT officers are always on hand to deliver crime prevention advice to ensure that you and your neighbours are not victims of these types of crime.

For further information on bogus workmen or other aspects of crime prevention, please see the information on our website at www.lbp.police.uk.

Alternatively, please contact your local team of officers using the contact details on the back page of this newsletter. They would be happy to discuss some simple and practical steps to keeping yourself and your home safe.

Edinburgh is lucky to be hosting a number of events this summer, and police planning is now well underway for all of them. As well as the wedding of Zara Phillips and Mike Tindall at the Canongate Kirk on 30th July, we also have Armed Forces Day and the State Opening of Parliament to look forward to. Our resources will be carefully managed to allow for resilience in the neighbourhoods too. We will ensure that local communities continue to receive a high quality of service.

Garden Crime - Nip it in the bud!

Spring is upon us and for some of us, thoughts turn to our gardens.

Many of you take measures to protect your home but don't give a thought to your bicycle, lawnmower, hedge trimmer, power tools and other valuable gardening implements lying in your shed. Criminals consider this type of crime to be low risk/high return as they don't have to force entry to your home and the goods they can get are as valuable as anything in your house.

The good news is there is a lot you can do to prevent it.

Any boundary fence at your house should be built in such a way that it is difficult to climb.

Use a good quality closed shackle padlock on your

shed door.

Importantly, the hasp and door hinges should be attached using coach bolts rather than screws to prevent simple removal.

Fit an internal wire mesh grille to protect your shed window.

You should keep valuable items in the house but if they must stay in the shed, chain/lock them up and security mark them. Consider a shed alarm.

Lace a chain through the handles of garden forks, spades, bicycles etc. This will prevent a thief from being able to remove single items. Remember tools from your shed can be used to force entry to your house.

Finally - Don't let any casual caller do work on your property, for example roofing, tarmac driveways or gardening.



Local Operations and Initiatives

The SNT have been working together with Balerno High School to reduce the time the school buses spend in Bridge Road, Balerno. Due to the high number of school buses that are required at this school the road can become congested and as a result could present a hazard to other road users and pedestrians crossing the road. The bus companies involved have been warned about this and to ensure that this



warning is heeded the SNT and Lothian and Borders Police Traffic Support Wardens are carrying out joint patrols and will continue after the school holidays. SNT are continuing to do litter patrols in the Main Street, Balerno during the school lunch break. A number of young people have been spoken to and warned against this conduct. After some no tolerance patrols there has been a significant decrease in the amount of litter being dropped. It had also been reported to police that there is a similar issue in Dolphin Road, Currie. Patrols have been carried out there and Currie High School has warned their pupils also. Police will continue to monitor these areas. There has been an increase in the number of calls regarding youths throwing stones at passing vehicles from the bridge that goes over Clovenstone Road and generally causing a disturbance. In direct response to this, high visibility patrols are being carried out in the area in order identify those responsible. A joint initiative is being set up to deal with this issue.

A small number of housebreakings have occurred in the Baberton Mains area. Officers would like to again remind residents to secure rear gates and doors to their properties and report any suspicious incidents to the police. As the better weather approaches people begin to take to the idyllic Pentland Hills. As beautiful as this area is, it is imperative that all people using the Threipmuir and Harlaw Reservoir car parks must remember to use the same caution as they would when using any other car park by taking all valuables with them. Break-ins to cars have been reported. There has also been an increase in calls regarding people camping in the hills and setting up campfires. Without the appropriate knowledge there is a potential for these fires to become dangerously out of control. The Park Rangers and the police will be working together along with the local farmers to ensure that all the public use this area appropriately. You are reminded to take all your waste with you and to leave the area as you found



it. The local SNT will soon be receiving a 4x4 police vehicle and will be monitoring this area closely. The first meeting for the Pub Watch was a huge success with fourteen local premises from Balerno, Currie and Juniper Green signed-up. It is anticipated that other licensed premises will also join. Further meetings are being held in the coming weeks.



Appeal for information

Within the Lothian and Borders area there have been a number of thefts of scrap metal. There has been an increase in the value of scrap metal and with this an increase in thefts. This area is no exception to this and reports of scrap metal thefts have been reported. These vehicles may appear to have a genuine purpose for taking items, however if you suspect anything untoward then please call the police. Incidents of vandalism in the Kirkgate area have been reported to the Police. It would appear that person (s) have been entering into the private driveways of the properties there and intentionally damaging the lights. This is mindless and expensive vandalism for the property owners to repair. If you have witnessed these crimes or have information relating to a crime, please contact the police on 0131 311 3131.

You can also pass information anonymously to Crime Stoppers on 0800 555 111.

Local Priorities

At the Community Safety Sub Group on 7th February 2011 the priorities for your area, Ward 2, were set.

1. Pub-watch scheme in the Balerno/ Currie and Juniper Green areas
2. Parking of School Buses blocking Bridge Road for up to 1 hour/Parking Juniper Green Primary School
3. Lunchtime littering in Main Street Balerno caused by school children



A scheme has been launched across Scotland to keep children safer from sexual predators.

Keeping Children Safe was launched on 31st March in Lothian and the Borders, following successful rollout in other areas of the country.

The scheme means that parents, carers and guardians of children under 18, can ask the police for information about whether a person who has contact with that child has a record for sexual offences against children.

If it's found the person in question does pose a risk of harm to the child concerned, information may be given to the parent, carer or guardian as a protective measure. If there is serious or immediate risk, measures to protect that child will be taken immediately.

Anyone wanting to raise a concern regarding a child in their care can do so directly by visiting their local police station or by calling Lothian and Borders Police, where their call will be directed to the 'Keeping Children Safe' co-ordinator.

For more information, visit www.lbp.police.uk/keepingchildrensafe



A Division

City of Edinburgh help and advice

Lothian and Borders Police
Non emergency
0131 311 3131

Lothian and Borders
Fire and Rescue Service
(freephone)
Fire safety advice:
0800 169 0320
enquiries@lbfire.org.uk

Lothian Gay and
Lesbian Switchboard
0131 556 4049
0131 557 0751 (lesbian)

Samaritans
For emotional advice if you are
feeling depressed or suicidal:
0131 221 9999 (Edinburgh)
08457 90 90 90 (National)

Shakti Women's Aid
Support and information for
black minority ethnic women
experiencing domestic abuse:
0131 475 2399

Update
Signposts people with
disability to a wide range
of services:
0131 669 1600

Victim Support
01896 751 212

Women's Aid
0131 3158 110

National freephone helplines

(calls may not be free
from mobile phones)

Breathing Space
For emotional advice if
you are feeling depressed:
0800 838 587

Childline
Help for people aged
18 or under: 0800 11 11

Know the Score
Free confidential drugs
information and advice:
0800 587 587 9

Message Home
Get a message home for
free if you have run away:
0800 700 740

National Debtline
0808 808 4000

National Domestic
Violence Helpline
0808 2000 247

National Missing
Persons Helpline
0500 700 700

Runaway Helpline
0808 800 7070

Scottish Domestic
Abuse Line
0800 027 1234

Shelter's Free Housing
Advice Helpline
0808 800 4444

Stonewall
Lesbian, gay and
bisexual charity:
08000 50 20 20

Womens Aid
0808 2000 247

Crimestoppers

0800 5551111
www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Contact your Local SNT

Email: adivsntpentlandhills@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Tel: 01313113131 ext 2612