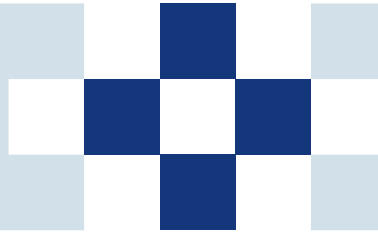


with
youfor
you

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



Ch Supt Gill Imery

The New Year brings challenges both new and old. I am sure many of you will be thinking about the creation of a single police force for Scotland and what this means for local communities. The commitment to community policing in Edinburgh shall remain undiminished. Through our Safer Neighbourhood Teams we shall continue to work

with local communities to identify their priorities and act upon them.

Crime figures (compared to this time last year) show an overall reduction in recorded crime by 3%.

Significantly break-ins to homes continue to fall with a reduction of 18%. I attribute this to a visible police presence on the streets, the ongoing work of our housebreaking investigations units and crucial work with our partners to engage with offenders. That said, some categories of violent crime, particularly street robberies, are giving cause for concern and we are carrying out a citywide operation to address this.

As we move into the new year our focus is once again on the prevention of crime within our communities. I know that you will continue to support our efforts and work with us to achieve safer communities.

Best wishes for 2012 to you and your families from all officers and staff within A Division.

DON'T FALL FOR THE HONG KONG INHERITANCE SCAM

We would like to draw your attention to a recent spate of letters purporting to be from Hong Leong Bank. The letters claim that the recipients could be entitled to millions of dollars in inheritance, following the death of an individual sharing the same surname as them.

These letters appeal to the commonly held fantasy of a rich distant relative passing away and leaving a fortune in inheritance providing an instant Jet Set lifestyle for the recipient. Unlike many modern online scams, these letters come through the post in an attempt to give them an air of legitimacy.

This is a long established scam, which rears its head from time to time and people from all over the world have fallen for it.

If you receive unsolicited mail like this and the contents seem too good to be true, they probably are. Details of these scams can be found through many sources on the Internet. Members of the public are advised not to respond to these letters and if you have done so already, please do not respond to subsequent requests for money. If you have concerns about potential scams, please don't hesitate to contact your local police station on 0131 311 3131.



Local Operations and Initiatives

Work has commenced in support of the new priorities with requests to CEC to assist with graffiti removal in the toilets in Juniper Green and a request for ROAM (NHS backed outreach and support network) to attend at locus in accordance with the Lothian & Borders Standard Operating procedure (SoP) for incidents such as

these. This requires that partner agencies assist in tackling the problem before any pro-active enforcement action can be commenced. Patrols in the PS55 beat area (triangular area bounded by Baberton Golf Course, Lanark Road and south of the railway) now have the Clovenstone area being the centre of the patrol area with a focus being further afield to take in the rest of the beat. Any youths seen are engaged and spoken with. Attention is also being given to stairwells and similar hiding places where youths congregate to shelter but behave in an anti-social manner. So if Police are seen entering stairwells, looking for youths, don't be too alarmed. The setting up of a "Cold Calling Control Zone" in the Bavelaw Gardens area should gather momentum as partner agencies required to assist in the organisation and implementation of such a project return from the winter holidays. This priority was suggested by members of the Community Safety Sub Group who set the priorities and came about as a result of a recent public perception survey.



As a result of intelligence received, Ward 2 Safer Neighbourhoods Team (SNT) officers executed a warrant under the Misuse of Drugs Act in Grove Street. It was a success with £41,000 of herbal cannabis and £10,000+ cash and other items being seized. A male was subsequently arrested and has appeared at court. This was an excellent result in the fight against illegal drugs and valuable experience for all the officers concerned. Further investigations are ongoing with regard to seizing further assets under the Proceeds of Crime Act. Another success was the recovery of property from a house in the ward. The recovered property is suspected of having been stolen by an employee. Constables Robertson and Redden had been investigating the thefts for a number of weeks and as is often the case, started with one complainer and steadily "snowballed". They successfully applied for a Sheriff's warrant to search the premises. At the time of writing, there are still extensive



enquiries to be carried out to identify the substantial amount of property seized. Local SNT officers also assisted their Gorgie & Dalry colleagues with Operation Cheddar, a crime initiative focussing on disrupting criminal behaviour and detecting those that commit offences in the Gorgie and Dalry corridors.



Appeal for information

As previously mentioned, PC's Robertson and Redden have an ongoing enquiry regarding thefts.

They have a substantial amount of items of jewelry (and other items) recovered that still need to be identified.

If you think you have had this type of property stolen from your home by an employee, please contact the officers at Balerno Police Station.

Local Priorities

December saw the setting of the new priorities for the ward, these being:-

1. Gents toilets, Juniper Green – Information and intelligence received that the premises are being used for anti-social activities, initial observations revealed a substantial amount of explicit graffiti.
2. Youth disorder – PS55 beat – general youth disorder in the beat area, possibly dispersed from the Clovenstone area as a result of previous concentrated police patrols in support of previous priorities.
3. Setting up of a Cold Calling Control Zone in the Bavelaw Gardens area. (Sheltered Housing complex).

Launch of Autism Alert Card

Lothian and border Police is to launch a new autism awareness initiative to help address the unique challenges faced by people with autism who are victims of crime and accidents.

The Autism Alert card will help ensure those with the condition are quickly identified by police and emergency services and is endorsed by Lothian and Borders Police and The National Autistic Society (NAS) Scotland and Autism Initiatives Scotland.

The leading autism charities are heralding the card a 'breakthrough', and encouraging all young people and adults with autism to apply. The card is to be rolled out in the region from January 23rd 2012. An estimated 50,000 Scots have autism, with 10,000 thought to live in the Lothian and Borders region.

Featuring the Lothian and Borders Police logo, the card will include details of a personal contact who can lead emergency services through the best ways to support the individual with autism in what can be a highly pressurised experience.

Autism is known as the 'invisible disability', because those with the condition can appear to be outwardly functioning well, while often experiencing severe challenges in communication and social situations. Being a victim of a crime or accident can be a stressful experience for anyone. But for someone with autism it can be particularly disorientating and frightening. People with the condition often have difficulty understanding facial expressions, can be very literal in their understanding of questions and easily misinterpret others' intentions. In an environment of serious crime or medical emergency these types of misunderstandings can have serious consequences.



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 555111
www.crimestoppers-uk.org

Contact your Local SNT

Email

ADivSNTpentlandhills@lbp.pnn.
police.uk

Tel No: 0131 311 3131ext 2612