

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News



ISSUE 58—June 2009

'Work With Us'

Divisional Commanders Message

CITY

A number of unplanned incidents over the last few months have demonstrated the unpredictable nature of policing and provided requirement to address investigation and resource issues across the City. I wish to highlight that the focus, despite these unexpected demands, is still very much on the provision of an appropriate service to our community. The ability for police officers and staff to continue to provide this service is aided through joint working arrangements with our partners as well as liaison with the community.

WIDE

The demand on police resources continues throughout June, which is traditionally a very busy month for us with a number of events taking place across the city. This is also a forerunner to the summer months of July and August, which incorporate the school holidays and a number of major events such as the Edinburgh International Festival and the Royal Military Tattoo, as well as the increased number of smaller events across the Division. We will, however, strive to continue to provide the same level of service in local communities as we do at all other times in the year.

As always, if you have any concerns you wish brought to our attention your Community Beat Officer can provide invaluable advice and support.

Chief Superintendent Colin Campbell

Summer "Slip In" Thefts

TOP

At this time of year we regularly notice a rise in the number of "Slip In" thefts. These are committed in a number of ways, the most common being when you are in the garden and the thief slips into your house through an insecure door or window and steals your valuables. Similarly if it's a nice day and you leave windows or doors insecure whilst you go about your business inside the house you are leaving your property open to criminals.

HOUSE

Remember, it only takes a second to slip in and steal cash, credit cards, jewellery, digital camera, MP3 player, laptop or even your car.

If you are in your back garden, make sure that your front door is locked and secured, not just on the Yale lock as these are easy to overcome. Similarly if you have a conservatory or patio doors at the rear of your home it is important to secure them to prevent anyone slipping in whilst you're working in your garden. In the rare event that we experience a particularly warm and pleasant summer, do not be tempted to leave your windows open when you're out the house. Open windows can be an invitation to thieves and please remember to keep your car keys safe. Modern cars are virtually impossible to steal without the true key so don't leave them lying around in vulnerable areas. Keep your keys with you or secure them in a safe place, not on a key hook or near the front door.

Local News

Dean

Some success over the past month in Dean with the arrest of a male who went to ground after breaking into premises in Ravelston Park, but was detected by a police dog and arrested. Diligent enquiries by the Drylaw vehicle Crime Team identified 3 local youths for several break-ins to vehicles also in Ravelston Park. There were break-ins to 2 flats in a common stair in Comely Bank Road and a bike was stolen from a stair in Comely Bank Row.

Craigeleith

2 pedal cycles were stolen in the Craigeleith area over the month, from a communal garage in Orchard Brae Avenue and the other from outside accommodation in Fettes College. Vandalisms occurred when windows were smashed in Groathill Avenue and Craigeleith Hill Avenue and a camper van window smashed in Maiden Craig Road. Two unoccupied houses were set alight in Groathill Road South. The owner/developer has been contacted and the premises are to be torn down. Garden sheds were targeted in Craigeleith Hill Crescent and reiterates the need for diligence in securing sheds and considering shed alarms. Our Community Beat Officers are trained in crime prevention surveys and will gladly advise you on such security. A male was disturbed in the hallway of a house in Drylaw Avenue, when challenged by the occupier the man mumbled a few words and then left. He is described as a white male, 45-50 years of age, 5'9" to 5'11" in height and wearing glasses and a grey t-shirt.

PC Alan Millar – Craigeleith Community Beat Officer

Stockbridge

There have been counterfeit banknotes tendered all over the city, including Stockbridge, targeting charity shops, buying items of a nominal value, tendering fake £20 RBS notes, pocketing the change! A positive line of enquiry is being followed. More fake ID cards were seized from underage youths trying to purchase alcohol at local licensed premises. All the schools in the area have been notified that in future charges may be preferred against those involved. The schools have been supportive of this stance. Two males were charged with break-in's the Dean Bar and The Bailie (which happened in April this year) as well as other pubs in the City Centre. Another notable result was that of a "bogus seller". Targeting elderly victims in their homes, aggressively selling poor quality goods for high prices. He sold two jackets for £100 to an 82-year-old Stockbridge resident, which Trading Standards valued at £5 each. Fortunately the victim paid by cheque and phoned his bank to cancel the transaction. The male was traced and reported for 12 incidents across the City. He served a period of custody, was fined £1800, and ordered to pay the victims £1345. In the summer months though we do see a rise in this kind of activity so be aware and be warned.

PC Greig Stephen – Stockbridge Community Beat Officer

Drylaw

May was a fairly quiet month for crime within Drylaw and Ravelston although there was some car crime within the Wester Drylaw area, which resulted in 2 males being arrested and charged with breaking in to a vehicle. Fortunately there has been a reduction in the amount of break-ins to sheds and garages lately and hopefully this will continue with the vigilance of both residents and police. Also as previously stated alarms for outbuildings can be purchased quite cheaply. As always there are some issues with regard to youths loitering and causing annoyance within the Wester/ Easter Drylaw area due to the light nights and with the school holidays just around the corner we are doing our best to try and make this as tolerable as possible.

PC Frances Campbell – Drylaw Community Beat Officer

Useful Numbers

Community Beat Officers (CBO's)

Community Beat Officers Inverleith Sector.

Craigeleith: PC Alan Millar
alan.millar@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Dean: PC John Tod
john.tod@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Stockbridge: PC Greig Stephen
greig.stephen@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Drylaw: PC Frances Campbell
frances.campbell@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Officer in Charge of Inverleith Sector
Inspector Ian Davis
ian.davis@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Police Telephone Numbers

Force Communication Centre
(All City Police Stations)

0131 311 3131

Crimestoppers:

0800 555 111

Environmental Wardens:

0131 469 5328

or email env.wardens@edinburgh.gov.uk

And Finally....

I was pleased to be part of the recent Inverleith Community Conference held at the wonderful new Broughton High School, it was a great opportunity to meet so many of you and put faces to names. I was particularly impressed by the enthusiasm and pride in their school of the young people involved, all leading to a successful day. The conference I know also introduced some new faces to the community that is Inverleith.

Some of you may have noticed a new name in the left hand column (Useful Numbers). PC John Tod has joined the Community Team at Drylaw Police Station as the Community Beat Officer (CBO) for the Dean Beat. John will be out and about over the coming weeks and I am sure you will make him welcome.

Ian Davis
Inspector - Inverleith Sector

