

A Division Community and Neighbourhood Watch News



ISSUE 64–December 2009

'Work With Us'

Divisional Commanders Message

CITY
WIDE

With the festive season now firmly upon us, our winter policing initiatives are now up and running throughout the capital. We have a range of activities going on right across Edinburgh, including a number of extra patrols in the busiest hotspots – from the airport to our outlying shopping centres. We are also hoping to replicate the success of previous years with our city centre policing operation, Astrodome, which encompasses a huge range of partner activities all designed around keeping Edinburgh a safe place to visit, shop, and socialise in.

Lothian and Borders Police is committed to making sure you enjoy the festive season safely, and we have a range of safety advice that we are keen to share with you. Your local Community Beat Officer can offer valuable guidance on how to keep yourself, your family, and your property safe, and are easily contactable through the numbers on the back page of this newsletter.

Finally it is with great regret that I announce that I am leaving 'A' Division early in the new year, and I will take over the Safer Communities Division at Force Headquarters. I have thoroughly enjoyed being 'A' Division Commander for the past year or so, it has been both a huge challenge and a privilege. Chief Supt Gillian Imery will take over and I wish her every success for the future.

Chief Superintendent Colin Campbell

Before You Start Drinking, Get Thinking

TOP
TIPS

December is traditionally a time for nights out to celebrate the end of a hard year and many of those attending will drink more alcohol than they would normally.

Top Tips For A Safe Night Out

1. **Don't drink and drive.** Even small amounts of alcohol adversely affect reaction times. You could be arrested and lose your driving license or worse **you could lose your life or be responsible for the death of someone else.**
2. **Know how you are getting home.** Know where and when the night buses leave or arrange to get picked up from somewhere central and safe. Have a reliable taxi number in your mobile as Private Hire cars are not allowed to pick up passengers who have not pre-booked. Never be tempted to get into a car you have not pre booked as you don't know what you are getting into.
3. **Don't accept drinks from strangers** and never leave your drink unattended - it's easy for someone to put something in it.
4. **Alcohol can make you lose your inhibitions,** make you feel attractive and funny but when you're drunk you are also at your most vulnerable. You could become a target for violence and unwanted attention, so **drink responsibly**
5. **Look after your property.** Don't leave your bag over the back of your chair and keep wallets and purses close to your body to make it more difficult for thieves. Be alert to sneak thieves in pubs, clubs and restaurant.
6. **Don't get into petty arguments** in the pub or on the street – being drunk often makes people more aggressive than usual and arguments can lead to violence.

Local News

Welcome to the December 2009 Police Newsletter for the South Morningside and Greenbank area – the SM44 Beat.

This newsletter provides you with a summary of incidents that occurred in your area during November 2009.

It also provides you with some helpful and relevant crime prevention information.

Firstly I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself.

I am Police Constable 11023A Angela Carson and I am the new Community Beat Officer for the South Morningside and Greenbank area – SM44 beat.

I can be contacted by

Email: angela.carson@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Telephone: 0131 662 5022 (Answer Machine)

Post: St Leonards Police Station
14 St Leonards Street
Edinburgh
EH8 9QW

On the 30th November 2009 I took over from Police Constable Mike Brooks as the Community Beat Officer for the SM44 beat.

I began my Police career with Lothian and Borders Police on the 1st May 2007. I have been based at St Leonards Police Station since then working as a Community Patrol Officer on response within the St Leonards Area.

Prior to joining the Police I had worked for many years as a Staff Nurse in hospitals in the Edinburgh area.

I have dealt with a wide variety of incidents since I commenced my Police career including assaults, theft, shoplifting, housebreaking, vandalism, drugs and antisocial behaviour etc and I feel I have a good grounding in the type of crimes and incidents that occur in our area.

I'm looking forward to the new challenge this post brings and to working with you all in

helping to make South Morningside and the Greenbank area a safer place for the whole community to enjoy.

Please feel free to contact me on the above email and telephone number. If I'm not on duty I will endeavour to contact you as soon as I return to duty.

INCIDENT SUMMARY

During November 2009 there were 95 incidents reported to the Police. A lot of these incidents were of a minor nature and did not result in any crime reports.

Of these calls only 8 were emergencies that required an immediate response these incidents included antisocial behaviour, domestic incidents, assault and a disturbance at the Morningside Glory Public House where a minor verbal altercation took place between patrons.

The remainder of the calls were more routine being dealt with by a Shift Officer a Community Beat officer or another agency.

CRIME SUMMARY

In November 2009 27 Crime Reports were generated from the above incidents. 2 Crime Reports were solved. 6 reports relate to Road Traffic Incidents. 19 Crime Reports remain unsolved they relate to Vandalism to cars, Theft, Graffiti, a Housebreaking and an Assault and Robbery.

No one has been cautioned or charged with these offences but enquires remain on going into these crimes.

HOME SECURITY

I would like you to be extra vigilant with your home security over the Christmas and New Year period.

This an especially tempting time of year for the Opportunist Thief due to all the nice presents you'll have under your Christmas Trees.

Most housebreakings that are carried out are by the Opportunist Thief.

In two out of ten housebreakings the thief does not even have to force entry. They gain entry through an open door or window.

One of the first things that most of us are guilty of on entering our home is leaving our wallet / handbag and car keys on a table or shelf situated near the door. The Opportunist Thief will take advantage of our actions and slip their hand in the door and steal them.

So make sure when you come home, you lock the door behind you. Locks on doors and windows should be strong and should always be kept fully locked.

Help reduce the risk of your home being broken into by making sure you've taken these simple (and often inexpensive) precautions.

SECURITY CHECKLIST

If you are replacing or fitting new doors and windows, get ones that are certified to British Standard BS7950 (windows) or PAS 24-1 (doors)

Fit mortise locks (kitemarked BS 3621) to all front and back doors and locks to all downstairs windows or windows which are easy to reach.

Keep your house and car keys safe and away from doors and windows.

Fit a burglar alarm, but make sure it is installed properly and works.

Keep your garage and garden shed locked with proper security locks, and keep any tools secure and out of site.

Trim back any plants or hedges that a burglar could hide behind.

Make sure you have up-to-date insurance.

WHEN YOU ARE AWAY

Don't leave your curtains closed during the day time.

Use timer switches to turn on some lights when it gets dark.

Cancel any milk or newspaper deliveries when you go away.

Ask a neighbour to look after your home.

Good security will help reduce the chance of your home being broken into.

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT HOME SECURITY

Visit: www.crimereduction.gov.uk and www.homeoffice.gov.uk

If you would like to receive an email copy of the Police Community And Neighbourhood Watch Newsletter then please contact Angela on angela.carson@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Useful Numbers

PC11023A Angela Carson – CBO
E-mail: angela.carson@lbp.pnn.police.uk

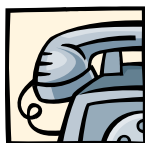
ST LEONARDS COMMUNITY SERGEANT:
Sergeant Peter Houston
E-Mail: peter.houston@lbp.pnn.police.uk

ST LEONARDS STATION INSPECTOR:
Inspector Ian Moffat
Email: ian.moffat@lbp.pnn.police.uk

ST LEONARDS POLICE STATION
0131-662 5794

FORCE COMMUNICATIONS CENTRE:
(For reporting non-emergency crimes or other disorder)
0131 311 3131

COMMUNITY SAFETY DEPARTMENT
0131 221 2050 / 2100
CRIMESTOPPERS (confidential)
0800 555 111.



How to contact police to report incidents:
URGENT: 999
Non- Urgent calls/general enquires:
0131 311 3131 or www.lbp.police.uk or
email: enquires@lbp.pnn.police.uk

And Finally....

As we approach the end of the year, I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself as the new Inspector for the St Leonards area. I have previously worked here in the last 2 years and am familiar with the wide array of needs for the area. I look forward to working with the support of all our partner agencies and communities towards a community that is safe for everyone to work, live and play.

On the approach to Christmas, many people look forward to spending time with their family and friends.

A slight word of caution – this is a time of year when criminals are looking for easy ‘pickings’ be it Christmas presents left in a car, under the tree or in transit home from town.

To ensure that you all have a great Christmas, please remember that a little bit of ‘personal’ crime prevention can go a long way and save a lot of potential grief in the process. If you need advice, do not hesitate to contact your local officer in the first instance.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very enjoyable Christmas and a Happy New Year

Inspector Ian Moffat
St Leonards Inspector

