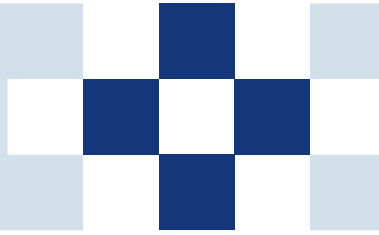


with
youfor
you

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

MICROSOFT SCAM

It has come to light that a very well documented telephone Scam is continuing to operate within Scotland and within our local community. Telephone calls are being made to home addresses from an Asian sounding male, claiming that the recipient has a problem with their computer system, Windows 7, and for a fee

they can fix it remotely. During the telephone call, the recipient may be asked to carry out small tasks on their computer to 'rectify' the problem then personal bank details are requested for a minimal amount. Please do not be caught out! The amount taken will be far greater than has been quoted and there will have been nothing wrong with the computer system in the first place! The only positive line of enquiry is from the telephone number used to call the recipient, however although they look like UK based landlines, the numbers are actually bought in batches of numbers from telecoms companies, which are thereafter routed through International servers. Due to the international nature of this type of scam, local police are very limited in what we can do therefore we would recommend for anyone who has experienced this type of scam to report it to ACTION FRAUD, a national Fraud reporting centre, linked to the National Fraud Intelligence Bureau within the City of London Police. They collate all reports of Fraud UK wide and decide how best to deal with the issue. They can be contacted by telephone or via the internet at www.actionfraud.org.uk



HOAX CALLER IDENTIFIED

On 13th September 2011, Local officers attended at Cramond Island following a call to the Coastguard requesting assistance. A male had stated via telephone that he was trapped on the island with friends and one of them had a broken leg. The weather conditions were extremely poor and due to this a Royal Naval Helicopter was summoned to attend to assist in the search and rescue operation. This operation cost in the excess of £10,000 and risked the lives of those assisting in the operation. On arrival, officers established that the call was false. Later the same evening a further call was made from the same male and on this occasion he stated that there was someone in difficulty in the Forth, again this call was found to be a hoax. Enquiry into these calls was instigated and from the evidence gathered, a warrant was craved for the home address of the male suspected of being involved.



This warrant was recently executed and during the search the mobile phone used to make the hoax calls was found within the property. The male was arrested and charged for the offence and has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.



Appeal for information

Around 1820 hours on 17th January 2012 a cyclist was travelling home along the cycle path near to Silverknowes Road which runs to the rear of Tesco at Cramond Road South. Whilst passing under the bridge there someone threw a stone at the cyclist who was lucky not to be injured. Due to the darkness the cyclist did not see anybody. This is not the first time that this has happened. There were however a number of other incidents of anti social behaviour following this and it is suspected that the same youths may have been involved. There were 6 to 8 youths involved, described as being male and female aged 14 to 16 wearing hooded tops. If you have any information regarding these incidents please contact Lothian and Borders Police on 0131 311 3131 or anonymously, Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111 or by email at www.crimestoppers-uk.org or email your local SNT at ADivSNTAlmond@lbp.pnn.police.uk

Local Priorities

Existing local priorities are as follows:

- Anti Social Behaviour around Tesco, Cramond Road South and the Davidsons Mains area
- Problems relating to the operation of Public Houses within Davidsons Mains
- Problems with Cyclists in Brae Park Road
- Ongoing Anti Social Behaviour within the Silverknowes area

Local Safer Neighbourhood Team officers have continued to be involved in Operation Cerecloth 2, which was put in place to combat an increase in vandalism and youth disorder in the area. A joint agency approach was adopted, which has resulted in a new static cameras being installed. A Safer by Design Survey has now been completed and issued to the Community Council. To date these new measures appear to have significantly reduced youth antisocial behaviour and the latest figures produced show the incidents have dropped from 25 to 13.

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

[ADivSNTAlmond@lbp.pnn.
police.uk](mailto:ADivSNTAlmond@lbp.pnn.police.uk)

Telephone

0131- 311 3131 Ext 6585