

**your
force**



**your
news**

work with us to
keep our community safe.



Inspector's Message

I am pleased to introduce the second newsletter from the community police in East Lothian. The newsletter highlights various initiatives and offers crime prevention and personal safety advice.

East Lothian has seen a reduction in crime and antisocial behaviour this year and like me, you will want this to continue year on year. However, to achieve that we need you, the communities, to play an active role. I strongly encourage you to come along to our surgeries and meetings, as we want to know what the issues are in your community. All the officers in East Lothian look

forward to working with you and we give you our commitment we will make every effort to tackle the problems you identify. East Lothian is a great place to live, work and visit and I am confident that by working together we will build safer and stronger communities.

Best wishes for a happy and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous 2012.

Ian Mackay
Community Inspector
Haddington/Dunbar and North Berwick

Winter Road Safety

Last winter, the region suffered some of the most extreme weather conditions seen in recent years. This led to many people being stranded both at home and by the roadside, and to a large number of accidents being reported.

The following, lists a number of precautions you should take when driving during winter (list not exhaustive):

- Road surfaces are frequently covered by frost and ice, but often not uniformly. Isolated patches and certain gradients will remain icy when the other parts have thawed. Adjust your speed accordingly and always drive to the conditions
- It is good practice to have your vehicle fully serviced before winter starts and have the anti-freeze tested.
- Check that your lights are clean and working before each journey.
- Listen to local/national weather broadcasts and travel information bulletins on the radio. If conditions are very bad, avoid making your journey unless it is absolutely necessary.
- Clear snow and ice from your vehicle before making your journey. This will save time later and may prevent accidents.
- Finally, give yourself extra time to complete your journey - it is better to arrive a little later than not at all!



Home Security

With Christmas fast approaching it's important to remember that although most people will be in the festive spirit there is always a small minority of opportunist thieves on the lookout for poorly guarded Christmas presents.

Taking heed of the following list should help to minimise the risk of falling foul of such crime:

At Home

- Don't leave your Christmas presents under the tree in full view of windows where passers by can see in.
- Now that the clocks have gone back, remember to leave a light on in your property so that your home is not in darkness when you return from work; use dusk to dawn light bulbs or timer switches to illuminate your home.
- Don't keep large amounts of cash for shopping at home.
- Always lock your shed, car and garage.
- If you are away over Christmas, remember to inform trusted neighbours and ask them to keep an eye on your home. It is also worthwhile letting the local police know that your house will be empty (remember to provide details of keyholders). Use timer switches for lights, television and radio to make it look as if you are home.



When Shopping

- Make sure your purse or handbag is closed and secure – never leave it unattended.
- When typing in your pin number in a hand terminal, ensure that it cannot be seen.
- If you see someone suspicious hanging around a cash machine, leave and come back later, or use another cashpoint.
- Before using a cash machine, check that there is nothing unusual about it.
- Put your money and card away safely before leaving the machine.

In the Car

- If you have to keep presents in a car, make sure that they are well hidden in the boot.
- Ensure Satellite Navigation devices are removed from the car and remove the suction mounted fitting from the windscreen (along with any tell tale marks) as this gives potential thieves the idea that a SatNav device could be in the car somewhere.
- Whenever parked and unattended, ensure the car is locked and that nothing of real value is left inside.

Have fun and stay safe this Christmas



News in brief

Operation Ether

The geography of East Lothian is such that there are a number of outlying communities who have little or no contact with the local police. Operation Ether aims to change that by bringing the police to you.

A community police van will travel across the region visiting such communities, giving everyone a chance to speak with their local beat officer. They will be accompanied by a member of the East Lothian Council antisocial behaviour team. Ether will provide those living in rural areas the opportunity to air any concerns whilst receiving relevant crime prevention advice (Domestic Crime Prevention Surveys can be arranged at this time).

The times, dates and venues for these visits will be displayed in prominent places across the region. Alternatively, phone your local police station for details.

Community and Police Partnership (CAPP) meetings

CAPP meetings are regularly held in your area and are open to all local residents. The meetings provide the opportunity for you to come and speak with local police and community councillors and express any concerns you may have.

At the meeting, three priorities will be identified for the Community Beat Officer (CBO) and they will report back on them at the following meeting. They are usually held every 4 to 6 weeks. For your local CAPP meeting dates and times, please contact your local CBO or visit our website at www.lbp.police.uk

Antisocial Behaviour Team

Based in Haddington, the East Lothian Antisocial Behaviour Team consists of council and police staff and is set up with the objective of tackling antisocial behaviour in the county.

Antisocial Behaviour includes:

- constant loud noise or disturbance from a neighbour
- drunken disorder
- intimidating or threatening behaviour
- violence
- vandalism and graffiti

East Lothian Antisocial Behaviour Team

– 01620 829919, or 0845 6018518 (24 hour)

Contact your local Community Beat Officer (CBO)

Whether you're looking for advice on antisocial behaviour, crime prevention information or just want to speak to an officer about community issues, contact your local police station or visit our website at www.lbp.police.uk

Why call Crimestoppers?

Why call Crimestoppers?

This is a freephone service which allows you to report a crime anonymously.

Crimestoppers record no personal details; they simply pass on the information you have about crime whilst protecting your identity.

To contact Crimestoppers, call **0800 555 111**, or visit www.crimestoppers-uk.org



East Lothian Community Beat Officers

Sector Inspector and Sergeant for Musselburgh, Tranent and Prestonpans Police Stations

Inspector Helen Miller
Sergeant Hamish MacLean

Musselburgh Police Station

0131 665 9696

Community Beat Officers

Constable Douglas Smith
Constable Jeff Low
Constable Damien Hall
Constable Amanda Johnston

Tranent Police Station

01875 610333

Community Beat Officers

Constable Mark McCluskey
Constable Gary Brown
Constable Scott Robertson

Prestonpans Police Station

01875 810250

Community Beat Officers

Constable Tom Hall
Constable Fiona Gilchrist

Sector Inspector and Sergeant for Haddington, North Berwick and Dunbar Police Stations

Inspector Ian Mackay
Sergeant Gordon Simpson

Haddington Police Station

01620 824101

Community Beat Officers

Constable Lynn Black
Constable Kelly Paton
Constable Debbie Gray

North Berwick Police Station

01620 893585

Community Beat Officers

Constable Colin Banks
Constable Laurie Dobbie

Dunbar Police Station

01368 862718

Community Beat Officers

Constable David Aitchison
Constable Kevin Hughes
Constable Gavin Ross

East Lothian Antisocial Behaviour Team

01620 829919, or
0845 601 8518 (24 hour)