



## Bogus Callers



Visits from Bogus Workers tend to increase in the summer months, below is some advice on how to help ensure you don't fall victim:

- Cold Callers/Bogus Workmen turn up on the doorstep unannounced with good excuses such as 'just happen to be working in the area' 'you have some loose slates.' Never let a casual caller do any work on your property; be that gardening; roofing or laying/repairing your drive. Thank them and inform them that your tradesman will look at it. Most reputable companies do not operate in this manner.
  - What do Bogus Workmen look like? They are usually very plausible people dressed for the part.
  - Who is at risk from them and when? We all are but they tend to prey on the more vulnerable and will usually call through the day.
  - What can you do? Be prepared. Are you expecting someone to call? Check the person on the doorstep is genuine; most service providers carry identification, use the phone book to get the telephone number to contact the company to confirm. Best of all only deal with callers by appointment.
  - Don't keep large sums of money in your home.
  - Keep front and back doors locked even if you are just in the garden.
- If suspicious persons are in the area - phone the police – give a good description of them and most importantly give the registration number, make/ model, and colour of any vehicle involved.

## Summer Security

Summer is a time when people like to get out and enjoy the garden but this brings an increase in responsibility to ensure you look after your home, shed and tools. Follow these tips and it should help you have a safe and secure summer:

- Lock your doors and windows when you are in your garden. You will not hear a thief if you are using garden equipment such as lawnmowers, strimmers or even if your radio/stereo is on.
- Replace standard screws on garden sheds with non-return screws or coach bolts.
- Fit a closed shackle padlock and hasp that is to 'Secured by Design' standard. If this logo isn't on the packaging then it isn't secured by design.
- Fit an internal grille over the windows of your shed.
- Secure the contents of your shed by running a 'Secured by Design' reinforced cable through the handles of garden equipment and secure to an anchor point fixed to a robust part of the shed.
- The same applies to bicycles, which you can also have security marked.
- Bring the tools inside if you do not have a garden shed or outbuilding and don't leave garden equipment unattended for long periods. You may find someone else will use it to break into your property or that of your neighbours. If you are not using equipment, securely store it.



With metal theft being on the increase, equipment such as barbecues and garden furniture should be stored securely when not in use. They could be stolen, or worse, used to break windows to get into your property. Install outside security lighting that comes on automatically at dusk or is activated by movement. If you have a burglar alarm, why not extend it to cover outbuildings and sheds?

For further advice on this or any crime prevention matter please contact PC David Robertson at Howdenhall Police Station on 666 2222 or by E-mail at [david.w.j.robertson@lbp.pnn.police.uk](mailto:david.w.j.robertson@lbp.pnn.police.uk)



## Environmental Wardens

The Environmental Wardens in the South are leading the field when it comes to fixed penalties issued in May, and have worked hard throughout the month doing joint patrols with the Police.

The Wardens have been concentrating their attention on littering and this has shown in the figures with 19 of the 46 tickets issued in May being for litter. The Wardens have also been helping the Police and Community Safety Officers with the Moredun Initiative Week at the end of May.

# SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

The agreed priorities for Ward 10:

- Anti Social behaviour at Braidburn Valley Park
- Inconsiderate/careless cyclists
- Graffiti

The agreed priorities for Ward 15:

- Drug/alcohol fuelled anti social behaviour in Southside
- Speeding in Sciennes Road and double parking in Marchmont
- Inconsiderate/dangerous cycling

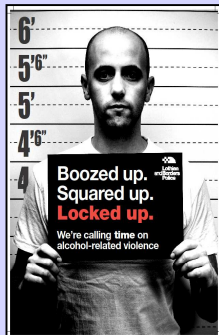
## Working Together for Safer Neighbourhoods

Your local police officers continue to target the matters that you say are important. In recent weeks the police have had a number of successes in the South area in targeting a small number of drugs dealers, disrupting drugs networks and seizing money and illegal drugs. These successes are not down to luck however, and are reliant upon members of the community reporting their concerns. Recently residents from Alnwickhill reported suspicious activity at a house in the estate that led directly to the recovery of a drugs cultivation. Similar community intelligence from Dumbiedykes resulted in further drug recoveries and arrests.

These and others matters would not be possible without the diligence of our communities, and public spirited individuals who want to make a difference to the area in which they live. If you think something is suspicious then it is worth reporting it. You don't even have to speak to the police direct – call Crimestoppers anonymously and for free on 0800 555111 or online at [www.crimestoppersscotland-uk.org](http://www.crimestoppersscotland-uk.org). In return your local police will strive to build Safer Neighbourhoods by targeting those who deal drugs.



## Operation Affirm II



On Saturday 17th and Sunday 18th June 2011, officers from Howdenhall and St Leonard's, along with council CCTV operators targeted various licensed premises in support of the national anti-violence campaign.

In a first for the South, with the full support of the licensees, we spoke with patrons to explain the initiative and used metal detectors to search for weapons as they entered. This type of work affords us the opportunity to promote a strong anti-violence message, support the licensed trade, and deter those who might consider carrying a weapon in a public place. Over the weekend over 110 searches were carried out, and we received support from many quarters. Such was the success that this initiative will be repeated in the coming weeks as we continue to make the South a safer place.



## Community Safety Team

### Moredun Initiative Week

#### Cases

The Community Safety Team has received 66 new cases in the South Central area since 02/03/11.

#### ASBO

There is currently 1 ASBO in the area against a City of Edinburgh Council tenant due to excessive loud music and noise.

#### Eviction

There has been 1 eviction in the area for antisocial behaviour which included loud music, parties and noise.

On 23 May the Council launched a Community Initiative week in Moredun, working in close partnership with the Lothian and Borders Police and other key partners. The aim of the week was to make the area cleaner, greener and safer and address the concerns of the local residents who live in the six multi storey blocks in Moredun.

During the week, Community Safety Officers provided information to all 560 flats on how to contact services if they have concerns about issues such as antisocial behaviour or crime and also distributed Fire and Home Safety packs. Direct action was taken to deal with problems like graffiti, dog fouling and abandoned vehicles. Of course, these services are delivered on a daily basis but a focussed initiative such as this helps to raise awareness of the wide range of services that are available and to build relationships with the local community.



#### Contact Information:

**South Neighbourhood Office:** 0131 529 5151, **Crimestoppers:** 0800 555 111, **Police:** 0131 311 3131

For more information please visit: [www.lbp.police.uk](http://www.lbp.police.uk), [www.edinburgh.gov.uk](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk), [www.lothian.fire-uk.org](http://www.lothian.fire-uk.org)

#### Other Useful Numbers

**Antisocial Behaviour Helpline:** help and advice 24 hours a day - 0131 529 7050

**Community Safety Night Noise Team:** assistance with noise issues 24 hours a day - 0131 311 3131

**Environmental Services:** for all things relating to roads, litter and open spaces - 0131 529 3030

**Environmental Wardens:** for trade waste, illegal dumping and dog fouling issues – 0131 529 5204