

Perth and Kinross Local Area Commander's Bulletin

5th March 2015

This last week started with the very sad double fatal car crash on the A 9 near to **Bankfoot** and my thoughts are with both families.

CRIME

Following on from the recent high value cars being stolen from Perth and Auchterarder by travelling criminals, we have been running a number of overnight operations across Perth and Kinross, Fife and Central Scotland. Just last night some men were disturbed in the Central Scotland area near to two high value cars and we are following promising lines of enquiry.

Again, the message must be if you see a suspicious vehicle in your area, note the number and call the police.

The week started with a break-in to a house near **Blairadam** during Thursday night, while the following night saw an attempt to break into a business in Perth Road, **Crieff**. That same night, there was a break-in to a fishing cabin near **Kinross**. In addition, an attempt was made to break into a grocers shop in **Coupar Angus** in the early hours of Sunday morning and some time over the weekend, a shop in Crieff Road, **Perth** was broken into.

All of these crimes are treated as a priority and any forensic opportunities are taken, but they are probably some of the most challenging crimes to detect.

A well known drug dealer was arrested in **Perth**, following the execution of search warrant for their flat on Friday evening and a quantity of Heroin was recovered. The focus on drug crime will continue for my officers and extra patrols are ongoing on areas known for drug dealing.

We have had yet more cars damaged across the region by mindless acts of Vandalism. In **Perth**, a wing mirror being kicked off a car in King Street car park on Thursday night, while a car was scratched outside a house in Tay Street **Comrie** on Monday afternoon and another car was badly scratched outside a house in Bruce Crescent, **Perth** yesterday afternoon.

A flat in the centre of **Coupar Angus** appears to have had burning material pushed through the letter box some time during the last two weeks of February. This type of crime is particularly dangerous. There have been numerous serious house fires in the UK that have been started this way, in some cases leading to the deaths of occupants.

As in this case, we look to recover forensic evidence and work closely with partners for all such crimes to try and identify the motive. In addition, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service attended to fit fire protection around the letterbox, to

stop burning material from landing on the carpet or setting the door on fire. Thankfully in this instance, no serious damage was caused.

Last Saturday, after the match at McDiarmid Park, **Perth**, a number of teenage fans attacked a bus of opposition fans with bottles and bricks on the slip road to the A9. They smashed the windscreen and could easily have seriously injured the occupants. Four youths were arrested at the time, and we are working with St Johnstone FC to try and stamp out this kind of organised violence and disorder. It is the club's intention to ban all of them.

If your teenage son is an active supporter, I would ask you to be aware of who they attend with and whether they are participating in such behaviour.

We have had an instance of a young child bringing an iPad to school with adult material on it. This can happen when young children have access to the internet, adult computer games or when other older children or adults use the same device. We all need to recognise that allowing young children to use such devices without parental oversight or control can expose them to potentially harming material, even if accidentally.

We have had new forms of crime around dating web sites. In one case the victim was inundated with indecent images from across the world after first registering, some of which were quite shocking; while another victim was induced to send large sums of money to a person in another country, with whom they had developed an online relationship.

ROADS

With the exception of the serious accident on the A9, we have had a relatively quiet week on the roads. Early this week we had a number of instances of vehicles sliding on black ice and in the early hours of Wednesday morning a fuel tanker came off the road near **Powmill**, dropping 30 feet into a burn. The driver sustained slight injuries, but was very fortunate the tank was empty.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Work is still ongoing to improve the level of engagement between Police Scotland and P&K communities. Our community coordinators are working with Councillors and partners to spread Rural Watch and the equivalent of Glen Watch across rural P&K. In addition a timetable of community council meetings is being pulled together to improve the planning around police attendance at meetings.

A review has been carried out on the drafting and distribution of monthly police reports for all community councils and I will continue meeting with community council networks to give them the opportunity to raise issues directly with myself. Finally, I have been meeting with all Councillors over the last month and will be making myself available in the Atrium in Perth every month to allow any of them to discuss local issues with me.

A formal plan of all these activities has been drawn up and will be circulated to you for comment with this bulletin in the near future.

If you have any information about the issues in this bulletin or wish to discuss them with your local Community Policing Team, please email us on the addresses listed below. For your information I have identified the names of the community sergeants covering your area.

Mike Whitford

Perth City Centre
Sgt Gillian Farnington

Perth City North
Sgts David Rice and Shona Beattie

Perth City South
Sgt Robert Southern

Almond and Earn and Carse of Gowrie
Sgt Stuart Watson

Perthshire South and Kinross-shire
Auchterarder - Sgt Scott Ferguson

Crieff - Sgt Peter Lorrain-Smith

Kinross – Sgt Geoffrey Goodison

Perthshire North
Aberfeldy/Dunkeld/Pitlochry - Sgt Caroline MacNaughton

Blairgowrie&Glens/Coupar Angus/Alyth - Sgt Andy Ness

Community Co-ordinators

There are 3 community coordinators covering Perth and Kinross. They are:

Sergeants Jon Anton, Karen Harrison and Amanda Nicolson, they work across Perth and Kinross to support community Sergeants in your area.

If you wish to make contact with any of these officers please use the following e-mail addresses:

TaysideCarseofGowrieCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk
TaysidePerthCityCentreCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk
TaysidePerthCityNorthCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk
TaysidePerthCitySouthCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk

TaysideStrathmoreCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk
TaysideBlairgowrieGlensCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk

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TaysideHighlandCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk

TaysideStrathtayCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk

TaysideKinross-shireCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

TaysideStrathallanCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

TaysideAlmondEarnCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

TaysideStrathearnCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

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