

## Perth and Kinross Local Area Commander's Bulletin

12<sup>th</sup> March 2015

This week has been a stormy one, with repeated days of high winds and rain for some.

### CRIME

The most prominent crime this week has been the serious assault of a 16 year old boy in **Aberfeldy**. An 18 year old male was arrested at the time. During the same night we had a Vandalism to a Café window. Work is ongoing with a number of partner agencies to help resolve the community issues arising from these incidents. I would ask anyone who has concerns about what is happening to contact us or their local Councillor, who has been updated with progress.

On a different note, Goodlyburn Primary School, Letham, **Perth** has been repeatedly targeted by children over the last week, throwing stones and breaking windows, with one evening seeing Perth College also being attacked. Additional patrols have been put in place and residents are encouraged to call us if they see this sort of behaviour in the area. The question must be asked if you live in the area and have children, whether they are involved or know who is. It will be a small minority, but it will need the community to help stop it.

An elderly man from the **Comrie** area has been systematically targeted by lottery scams. These involve receiving notification of having won an international lottery prize or draw, but one must pay money out in order to receive the prize. Sadly the victim in this case has lost over £7,000 to a number of such scams. If you have elderly neighbours or family, advise them to throw any such 'offers' in the bin.

There was a road rage incident last Wednesday evening at 5:30 pm on Abbey Road, **Scone** whereby the rider of a scooter attacked a car driver and damaged his car. If you saw the incident or know who was responsible, please give us a call.

We had a vehicle broken into in **Blairgowrie** last Thursday night, whereby the lock was forced and tools were stolen. Such tools for many, are the main way they earn a wage and losing them can have a devastating impact on their business. So if you have valuable but easily stolen tools, take them out of the vehicle if you can and make it clear there is nothing within.

**NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED**

About 11:30 am last Friday we had an indecent exposure near the bowling pavilion on the South Inch, **Perth**. The man responsible was described as late 30's, 6' tall with a pasty complexion, solid build, wearing navy tracksuit bottoms which appeared too big and a shiny light blue or grey raincoat. The man left the area after being disturbed, walking as if in pain under the underpass towards Craigie. If anyone was in the area or may have seen or know this man, please give us a call.

On Saturday evening about 10 pm, a 22 year old man was attacked by a number of men near to the filling station on Perth Street, **Blairgowrie** sustaining minor injuries.

A car was damaged by having its wing mirror kicked off in Glentilt Terrace, **Perth** about 10:30 pm on Saturday, while on Saturday overnight two cars were damaged in Abbey Road, **Scone**, with one wing mirror being damaged and another car being scored; utterly mindless. Do you know someone in the Abbey Road area who was out on Saturday and returned, probably drunk??? This behaviour is not unique to **Perth**, with a car damaged in Sauchie Terrace, **Crieff** early on Sunday morning.

Overnight on Monday, two cars were entered and property stolen in **Errol**, while around the same time, a commercial premises was broken into. These crimes involved at least three men and would appear to have possibly involved a degree of reconnaissance. So if you saw a strange vehicle or persons in the Errol area on Monday, either during the day or evening, please call us.

We had a break-in to a social club premises in Feus Road, **Perth** on Sunday night, while there was a break-in to a secure container at **Logierait** over the weekend, whereby the padlock was forced and tools stolen. During the same period someone forced the door of a house in Dunkeld. We have had a number of such crimes in and around the **Logierait** area in the last few weeks and I would ask people to keep an eye out for people or vehicles acting suspiciously at night.

In late February a number of new finger posts signs were erected by the local authority indicating directions to footpaths and cycle paths in the area of Redgorton, Luncarty, Pitcairngreen and Bankfoot areas. One of the wooden posts has not been cut down at **Redgorton**, if anyone has any knowledge of, or sees suspicious activity near these posts, they are asked to contact police immediately.

Over the weekend someone broke the padlock on a diesel tank at **Comrie** Caravan Park and stole fuel, while on Saturday night at a farm near Octertyre, **Crieff**, a tractor sustained damage to its tank in order to steal diesel.

A similar crime occurred overnight on Sunday at a building site in **Dunning**, where several vehicles had their tanks siphoned. These crimes need a vehicle to carry the fuel so please look out for strange vehicles and note their number if you can.

**NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED**

On Monday, a farmer near **Braco** suffered the death of a pregnant ewe as a result of a dog getting away from its owner. The seriousness of this kind of incident cannot be overstated and owners of dogs will carry the responsibility for the actions of their pets at all times. The farmer would have been within his rights to have shot the dog on sight. So dog owners living or walking in the country, particularly at lambing time, please keep your dog under control at all times. The owner in this case will be charged with a criminal offence.

## **ROADS**

We have not had any significant issues with the roads in Perth and Kinross this week, but with the high winds, heavy rain and snow melt, drivers have had to contend with some challenging driving conditions for short periods of time.

## **COMMUNITY ISSUES**

One area of violence against women is Prostitution. Perth and Kinross does not have a significant on-street Prostitution problem; however, we do know that there are a number of brothels operating. The definition of a Brothel in law involves two or more prostitutes operating out of premises. For this reason the modern form of this type of crime involves single women working alone from a series of flats across the country. The organised crime gangs rent a series of flats in different cities and then move the women around, often staying in a flat for no more than a week before being moved on to the next city by their 'pimps'.

Work carried out over the past two years has identified a number of such flats have been operated in **Perth**, however the problem is that they change regularly.

In cases we have previously identified, all the women were foreign. In many instances it was suspected they had been coerced into the activity by threats to their families in their home countries.

The primary aim for us is to identify, protect and support the women, very few of whom are prostitutes voluntarily and to target the criminals who control and profit from these desperately vulnerable women.

The challenge is identifying the flats. The best way is for neighbours within a close to report if they suspect a flat is being used in this way. The signs to watch for are male callers at all times of the day and night, many of whom will seem perfectly respectable. If the callers are a mixture of men and women, it is possible that there is a drug dealer in the close. The key is to give us a call. If you don't want to be identified, call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Finally, if you are a letting agent or landlord and you have a suspicion that a flat may be being used in this way, it is critical that you give us a call.

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](mailto:TaysideCarseofGowrieCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk)

[TaysidePerthCityCentreCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:TaysidePerthCityCentreCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk)

[TaysidePerthCityNorthCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:TaysidePerthCityNorthCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk)

[TaysidePerthCitySouthCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:TaysidePerthCitySouthCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk)

[TaysideStrathmoreCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:TaysideStrathmoreCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk)

[TaysideBlairgowrieGlensCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:TaysideBlairgowrieGlensCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk)

[TaysideHighlandCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:TaysideHighlandCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk)

[TaysideStrathtayCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:TaysideStrathtayCPT@Scotland.pnn.police.uk)

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[TaysideKinross-shireCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:TaysideKinross-shireCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk)  
[TaysideStrathallanCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:TaysideStrathallanCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk)  
[TaysideAlmondEarnCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk](mailto:TaysideAlmondEarnCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk)  
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