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Inverness Area Command

Newsletter – August 2024

Introduction:

We are pleased to present the latest edition of our community newsletter, designed to keep you up to date about the activities and initiatives of our local police officers. This newsletter serves as your window into the ongoing work of officers in your area, featuring insights from the City Centre Policing Team, Community Beats team and Fort Augustus / Rural Officer.

Our goal is to provide you with a closer look at the dedicated efforts of our police officers to ensure the safety and wellbeing of your communities. We understand the importance of keeping our community members informed and appreciate your continued support as we work together to make our streets even safer and more welcoming.

Thank you for being engaged and informed members of our community. Together we can continue to create a better and safer place for all.

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Community Beats Team

Inspector Emma Wright: Senior officer in charge of Community Beats, Rural and City Centre Policing Team.

Sergeant Brian Bisset: Community Beats line manager and team leader.



PC Katie
Johnstone:
Community officer
for; **Dalneigh,
Torvean, Bught,
Scorguie &
Kinmylies**



PC Cailean Macleod:
Community officer for;
**Hilton, Holm,
Lochardil, Culduthel
and Inshes**



PC Nicola Bain,
Community officer for:
**Smithton, Culloden,
Raigmore, Ardersier
& Croy**

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From the team:

We are experiencing a lot of changes within our community team. We have welcomed PC Nadine Mackenzie on to the team and will be joined by two further officers in the coming months. With this there may be some changes to officer's assigned beat area. I would encourage using our community email address highlandsandislandscommunitybeatsinverness@scotland.police.uk to contact your local officer. This will ensure the email doesn't get missed, this email box is monitored by the team, and the Sergeant. As such the newsletter will not have individual inputs this month.

This month we participated in Operation Protector, which was carried out with our partner agencies. We carried out drugs search warrants on properties involved with misuse of drugs. During this time further officers paired up with housing officers and attended the home addresses of members of the public highlighted to be at risk of criminal exploitation. During the visits we were able to offer support in relation to addictions services, support agencies, and address housing concerns. We thereafter set up stalls within Hilton community centre along with various other agencies. This was open for the public to attend and speak with us or other agencies about any concerns within their area.

We continue to receive reports about dirt bikes/ scrambler bikes on the canal, on playing fields, and wooded areas. We are aware of the dangers to not only the rider but members of the public. Often the riders have no safety equipment on and do not take care and consideration to other people. Besides the safety implications it is illegal to ride a dirt bike on public property. Should the riders be traced the bikes can be seized by the Police. We have arranged a meeting with community council, Counsellor, and Canal supervisor to address this issue. This will take place in September.

Speed checks have been carried out in Culduthel, Hilton and Lochardil beats. Several drivers were spoken to and warned. Road safety continues to be a priority for the team and further speed checks will be carried out, in particular around schools when pupils are coming and going to school.

The team continue to carry out cycle, foot and mobile patrol where they can. However we have had the following abstractions from our team; cover for rural stations, assisting response teams, missing persons, mental health incidents, child protection enquiries.

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As the Primary Schools and Secondary Schools have returned from their summer break we will monitor the parking issues surrounding drop off and pick up times. I have attended Dalneigh Primary School and so far have not had to warn any drivers in relation to their parking.

Unfortunately we've had reports of primary and secondary school age children fighting at Dalneigh Park in the evenings. We will patrol the area when we can and encourage anyone who witnesses any disturbance to contact the Police. We are also in contact with the schools in relation to this.

We have had reports of graffiti within Drakies park, this has now been cleaned, and we will continue to monitor the situation.

As ever we ask the communities to continue to pass information to community officers regarding drugs, organised crime and those involved in criminal activities in particular those preying on vulnerable persons in our communities. This can be done in person, via phone, email or completely anonymously via Crimestoppers on 0800500111.

Fort Augustus/Rural Officer Report:

Following PC Sara Hamilton moving on from the post, there is currently no local officer for the area. This will be covered by Inverness response team and the community beats team.

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Contact us:

Police Scotland can be contacted via a variety of ways. In an emergency and/or when a crime is ongoing, please dial 999 otherwise please use the 101 phone number to report any other crimes or matters.

For non-urgent routines matters or to highlight issues or make contact with specific officers then the following email addresses can be used:

Inverness rural beats – Beaulay / Cannich / Drumnadrochit / Fort Augustus / Foyers:

HighlandsandIslandsBeaulayFortAugustus@scotland.police.uk

For concerns and issues in the city of Inverness area and the rural beats of Ardersier, Daviot, Tomatin and Strathdearn:

HighlandsandIslandsCommunityBeatsInverness@scotland.police.uk

Please be aware that this e-mail address is not monitored 24/7 and is a contact email. Specific crimes should not be reported by these email addresses. Crimes should be reported via the telephone systems 999 or 101.

Any matters raised at community council meetings or specific community concerns should be emailed in and include the following details to enable your enquiry to deal with efficiently:

- Contact name
- Contact phone number
- Details of the issue – times/places/people/history of the issue

Statistics

Crime statistics for your community council area can be found using the following link –

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/about-us/how-we-do-it/crime-data/>

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