



Kia ora and welcome to the first publication of the UPbeat for 2012.



Community Officer

Upper Hutt has two Community Constables again with the recent appointment of Constable Lewis Diamond to the position. Constable Diamond (Sanchez as he is

affectionately known) has been an officer at the Upper Hutt station for over 6 years and in that time he has come to know the community and area well. "I think Upper Hutt is an awesome place to work in, and I'm looking forward to the different aspect of policing the role will bring. I hope I will be able to form new relationships within the community as well further strengthening those that already exist."

Stolen cars database

An additional database of stolen vehicles has been put on the National Police website (www.police.govt.nz). The database can be searched by entering a number plate, engine, chassis or vehicle identification number.

The database enables users to find out whether a vehicle is listed as stolen and if so, provides a description of the vehicle and what date it was stolen.

See www.police.govt.nz/stolen/vehicles

Matters of life and death

Connections between police officers and death are explored in a major exhibition at the Museum of Wellington City & Sea. Death and Diversity looks at the rituals and practices of eight ethnic communities and includes a programme of music, performance, stories and lectures.

Police will tell visitors about their work from a professional and personal perspective in

four presentations covering the Christchurch earthquake, the role of Police in processes surrounding a death, a police officer's photographs of roadside memorials and Senior Constable Bruce Lamb's story of his police dog's death in the line of duty.

Videos about Police and Victim Support will be shown, and the significance of Police's huia feather remembrance pin will be explained in a display.

The exhibition runs from 5 December to 26 June. Presentations take place from February. See www.museumswellington.org.nz for details.

Missing Persons

Last year the Upper Hutt Police received fifty one reports of persons missing or whose whereabouts were unknown. A majority of these reports were for teenagers who had run away from home, but a small percentage were for persons who due to circumstances beyond their control found themselves in very difficult conditions.

These situations required the deployment of specialist's squads such as the Search and Rescue group (comprising of Police personnel and local volunteers) and the Westpac Helicopter. Adventure Smart is a web site that provides a simple way for those who enjoy the great outdoors to record their intentions. People embarking on land-based activity can fill in an online form and email it to their trusted contact, making things easier for rescuers if anything goes wrong.

The website has safety codes for the outdoors, water and boating, and a snow responsibility code.

Go to: www.adventuresmart.org.nz



A community newsletter from your Upper Hutt Police team

Crime Trends

Here's a look at some of the crime reported to Police over the Christmas period.

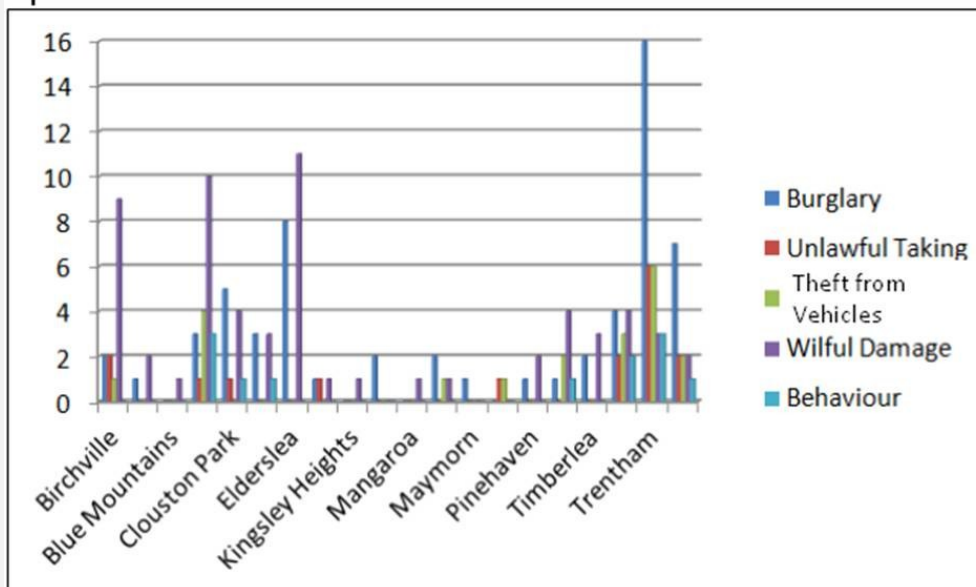
Although looking at these statistics one might be concerned about the numbers involved, especially those to where they are living, the good news is with a lot of these offences the perpetrators were caught.

Thanks to information received by members of the public, two young persons were caught trying to break into a house in Wallaceville. One of the youths was seen hanging around on the street, and a concerned member of the public thought they would advise the Police. In fact the boy was acting as a lookout while his mate was trying to open a window. They were caught a short time later running through properties.

Another good result was the arrest of a man caught breaking into a local business premises. It was later proven that he had broken into the same premises on two other occasions. Police also executed a search warrant on a local address where a large quantity of stolen property was recovered, much to the delight of the owner.

Can I encourage you all that if you think you see or hear something that might not quite be right to you, to call the police and let them decide what action they will take, rather than not reporting it and you (and no doubt the victim) later wishing you had.

Specific Crime in Upper Hutt between 1st Dec 2011 & 16 Jan 2012



Neighbourhood Support Group

Our Neighbourhood Support Group has a new full time (voluntary) co-ordinator. Kirsty Scott, who also co-ordinates the Community Patrol Group has taken on the role to ensure our local neighbourhood support groups have a dedicated contact to liaise with new groups and promote the benefits of having neighbourhood support in our community.

Meet Kirsty and hear all about NSG in the next newsletter!





Work Story

Many years ago when I was a young constable, sometimes on a night shift, my Sergeant would get one or two of us newbie's to patrol the streets on push bikes.

I was told it was a great way to get around quietly to find things happening and to hear things. I didn't think it was that great an idea during winter, but on this particular nightshift when I and another officer were assigned bike duties it was summer and a very hot and humid night. As the night progressed we weren't doing too badly, having arrested someone for breaching his curfew conditions and another for being wanted on a warrant.

We had just returned to our area and decided we would "rest" at a group of shops (it was about 3 in the morning and we had clocked up a few k's by then) but as we got off our bikes we heard the sound of a women screaming. Immediately our adrenalin started pumping and we began running all over the place trying to find where the screams were coming from.

Finally we managed to identify the source as coming from an open window of a nearby house. I quickly called up for back up, our minds racing as to what harm was being inflicted upon the female and then we quickly but quietly approached the house. Due to the obvious urgency of the women's plight, we decided we had to enter before our backup arrived. The front door was locked, so with only our torches available to us (we didn't have Spray, Tasers, or extendable batons back then) we (or rather I should say) kicked the door open and went storming into the unknown.

Now I'm not sure who yelled the loudest after that, us bursting through the house yelling "police", the man and woman who were in the throes of making love in their bed but were now desperately trying to hide themselves, or my Sergeant yelling at us for not knowing the difference between pleasure and pain.

HOT SEAT!

Commencing on 2 February, our Community Constable's will be sitting in the 'Hot Seat' from 1-2pm at the Upper Hutt City Library.

This is an opportunity for the community to sit down one on one, have a friendly chat and discuss any safety issues. They will be available on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month.

A message from 'Victim Support'

Happy New Year to everyone, I am delighted to be involved for the first time with "Upbeat". I started as Service Coordinator for the Upper Hutt Victim Support last August and I'm really enjoying coordinating our small, but highly committed volunteer support team and working in the Upper Hutt community.

Victim Support is a community based organisation of highly skilled and caring volunteers. We are here to support you or someone you know whether it be a family member, friend, colleague or a neighbour regain control and rebuild their lives following a crime or other traumatic event. Victims of crime and trauma need safety, healing, justice and restitution. Helping victims meet these needs is why Victim Support exists.

We provide immediate crisis support and practical assistance, someone to talk to - who will listen, provide information and help you explore next steps. We can assist you with accessing community agencies that can provide any other assistance you may need, such as counselling and financial assistance.

WORKING TOGETHER:

What really struck me when I started in this role is the strong sense of community there is in Upper Hutt. Many of the people I have met over the past couple of months have been born and bred here and are both knowledgeable and passionate about the Upper Hutt community.



The UPbeat



February 2012



A community newsletter from your Upper Hutt Police team

Community is an important part of what we are all about in Victim Support. We are all about members of our local communities supporting people in their communities affected by crime and trauma.

There are a number of ways that our Upper Hutt Victim Support Team would like to call on support from within the local community to assist us in the work we do:

Recruiting the right people to become part of our volunteer support team; and
Getting members of the local community actively involved in our Local Group Committees and on board with our fundraising efforts and providing local corporate sponsorship.

RECRUITING SOON FOR VOLUNTEER SUPPORT WORKERS - COULD YOU BE THERE?

Not everyone is cut out to be a Volunteer Support Worker – it's a unique volunteering role. It takes a special kind of person to care and support people whose lives have been shattered by a traumatic event.

Our volunteers are rewarded by seeing the difference Victim Support can make to those we assist, and are committed to helping people. There are also the benefits of receiving quality training and supervision, meeting new people and being part of our local Victim Support team, and having the satisfaction of learning to deal with issues you may have never experienced before. Several of our Upper Hutt team members have received community awards and public acknowledgements for the work they have done in victim support.

Our Volunteers provide information and support to victims of crime and trauma. The work varies depending on the nature of the incident. This can mean you do a range of things from being with someone who has been involved in a sudden trauma such as a motor vehicle accident to helping someone through the process of a criminal trial.

We look for volunteers who display empathy and are good listeners, have a high level of maturity and common sense, who can get on

with people of all ages, cultures and backgrounds. Anyone over the age of 18 years is welcome to apply. No previous experience in this type of work is necessary.

As a Victim Support volunteer you will receive full and comprehensive training that covers a range of topics to equip you for this very special role. You will also be expected to attend our monthly ongoing training, debriefing and supervision. We aim for the highest professional standards in our work and attach great importance to the training and support our volunteers receive.

Please call our 0800 VOLUNTEER line to talk to someone about volunteering with Victim Support.

Alternatively you can send an email enquiry via our website www.victimsupport.org.nz and we'll send you additional information.

Our service is free and confidential and operates around the clock 24/7 every day of the year.

You can call us anytime on 0800 VICTIM (0800 842 846) if you or someone you know requires assistance.

Amanda Kirkaldy
Service Co-ordinator Upper Hutt



If you have any questions regarding any of the content of this bi-monthly newsletter, please feel free to contact me on the details below.

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O/C Community Services
04) 527 2300

