# NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

## **NEWSLETTER**



Dear Coordinator.

With the festive period now well and truly upon us, I would just like to remind you of some basic crime prevention advice for keeping yourself

and your belongings safe—whether shopping, socialising or at home. During December, opportunist thieves have far more criminal options than at other times of the year. Simple preventative measures will keep you safe and (hopefully) happy during this festive time.

- Keep presents out of sight of doors and windows and don't leave packaging for new electrical goods on display outside your house.
- If you are away over the festive period, make sure that your house looks occupied by using timer switches for lights and radios.
- Ask a neighbour to keep an eye on your house.
- If you are Christmas shopping, remember to keep your handbags and wallets close to you and secure.
- Make sure doors are locked and windows are secure—even if you are in another part of the property.
- If you are buying valuable items this Christmas, make sure you get them logged on www.immobilise.com
- Don't leave shopping, gifts or other valuables on display in your car.

If you need to contact the police, please use **999** if urgent and **101** for non-urgent or you can contact me personally on 0117 9529703 / nicholas.simmons@avonandsomerset.police.uk.

I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a happy new year.

Nick



Remember you can report crime <u>anonymously</u> by calling Crimestoppers

Freephone: 0800 555 111

#### Personal Safety

If you are out and about this festive period, particularly, if you are on foot, consider the following advice. (Of course, it should be followed at all times and not just Christmas)

- Stay alert & walk confidently, ideally with someone else or in a group.
- Use busy, well-lit streets
- Avoid wearing headphones or chatting on your mobile phone.
- Carry a personal safety alarm
- Keep your valuables out of sight.
- Plan your route ahead.
- Use only licensed mini-cabs or Taxis

For more helpful advice visit www.suzylamplugh.org

#### Christmas Drink / Drive Campaign

'Operation Tonic' began on 1st December. There will be an increase in Police activity in support of this operation. If you are going out celebrating this Christmas arrange your transport home in advance. Book a taxi from a registered firm or decide who will be the designated driver. Don't drink and drive. This year 'the morning after' drivers will be targeted more closely. Please bare in mind that you could still be over the limit the following morning, if you had consumed alcohol the previous evening.

If you have information about a drink or drug driver please report it to us by calling 101 or texting the work 'drunk' to 81819. Include any information which might help us respond i.e. registration number and location.



### **Avon and Somerset Constabulary**

Working together to make the communities of Avon and Somerset be safe and feel safe Call 101 or visit www.avonandsomerset.police.uk











