



**Steven McEwan,
Inspector 9279**

Police December Update

Christmas time and the New Year are very much here again and I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the residents within the Cove area for their support and information which has allowed us to police effectively in your area this last year.

Break-in's to houses and cars remain low with only one shed broken into in the last month and a bike stolen from inside.

With the festive season upon us, can I highlight four things which will help everyone have an enjoyable time.

Keeping your house secure

- Keep windows and doors locked at all times, even when within. Remember to double check at night.
- Don't leave car keys in easy reach of letterboxes etc.
- When out, leave a light on or a timer switch on.
- Ask a neighbour to keep an eye on your house if away for any length of time.
- When you start to buy presents, keep them out of sight.
- Once the presents are open, for the more expensive items, phone/ jewellery/ computers/tablets etc. take a picture and note any serial numbers.
- If bikes are left in sheds, make sure you have a good padlock and shed alarm. Also look to have bikes chained and padlocked within the shed.
- Watch what you put on Social Media if you are away from home. You don't want to make it known to others you are away.

Keeping your car secure

- When shopping for your Christmas presents or in the sales after, make sure your shopping is out of sight and tucked away in the boot.

Christmas nights out

- Whilst not wanting to spoil any party, please drink responsibly and be aware of what you are drinking.
- Organise how you are getting home.
- Leave the car at home, if you know you're going to have a drink.
- Keep plenty of battery power in your mobile phone.
- Stick to well-lit routes if walking home. Best of all keep with friends or family.
- Don't leave your bags, purses, wallets or mobile phones unattended.
- Watch what you say to the boss!
- Be aware you may still be over the drink drive limit in the morning.

Lastly, take care driving

- The road conditions have changed.
- Keep your distance from the vehicle in front of you.
- Give your car a Christmas present of a winter check-up and top up, ensuring your lights are clean and you have suitable windscreen washing fluid.

On behalf of the Nigg Community Policing Team, may you all have a happy Christmas and New Year and should you have any problems, we are contactable on 101 or 999 if in an emergency. You can also follow or find information on www.scotland.police.uk or on Facebook or Twitter @AberdeenPolice

Sgt Mark Stephen