



SWALE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH ASSOCIATION

CHRISTMAS CRIME MENU

Christmas is a busy time of the year for everyone, including the criminal. However, a high percentage of crime is opportunist in nature, so we are seeking your assistance in preventing this type of crime.

Starter

YOUR CAR

Presents, etc., left in view

Do not leave gifts unattended in your car, especially overnight and certainly do not leave anything on view at any time.

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Sat Nav's and laptops

When you leave your car take them with you. Remember to remove the tell tale suction mark off the windscreen.

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Parking

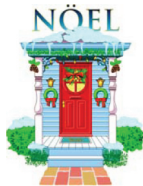
Park in well lit locations or in an attended car park.

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Travelling

Carry warm waterproof clothing, food, water and a torch in your vehicle, in case weather conditions mean you have to stop.

Make sure you have plenty of fuel for your journey before you set off.



Main Course

YOUR HOUSE

Ensure all gifts are kept out of view

Avoid putting presents under the tree until nearer the time, especially if they are visible to passers by (close the curtains).

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Lock doors and windows

Avoid leaving handbags and car keys near windows and doors. Never leave them downstairs at night - take them to bed with you.

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If you are going away

Cancel milk and papers, use a timer to switch lights and radios on and off. Perhaps a neighbour can go in, open and close the curtains each day, and check there is no mail or 'free' newspapers on view.

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If in doubt keep them out

Before you open your door to strangers, use a door chain. At all times only invite those you know into your home.

If you are not happy send callers away, if they are from a reputable company they will always call back.

Dessert

YOUR PROPERTY

Do not advertise to a burglar

After Christmas dispose of clearly identifiable packaging from your recent/expensive presents. Dispose of boxes safely. Turn them inside out or tear up the boxes for recycling (making sure the description of the item cannot be seen through the plastic bags) - even better take all the packaging to your local tip. This may be time well spent in avoiding the potential distress which a burglary would bring.

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Mark your property

Use an ultra violet pen and mark with your postcode and house number. You can register your valuables free on the following web site:

www.immobilise.com

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Buying online

Make sure you only use secure web sites for online payments.



Have a Happy and Crime Free Christmas and New Year

