

Bracknell News Article

December 2007

With Christmas soon to be with us, this is a good time to remind everyone about simple things that can be done to avoid becoming a victim of crime. The number of recorded burglaries often goes up immediately after Christmas. Simple ways to avoid this are to ensure your house is never left in darkness in late afternoon or early evening; try to ensure that deliveries to your home are not left on the door step for all to see and after all your presents have been opened remember that the empty boxes could tell a burglar what new things you have got in your home. It is very important that you keep an eye out for your neighbours particularly the elderly. Nosey neighbours can be good neighbours!

One of the most often reported anti-social behaviour problems in the Borough is the use of mini motorcycles. This might be a time that parents feel a mini-moto would make a good present. Please remember that they are motor vehicles by legal definition and as such require all the documentation and licences of any other motor vehicle. They can never be legally used on a footpath and even when used on private land can attract complaints of unnecessary noise. The police and the council have and will use the law to reduce nuisance caused by these things. The Crime & Disorder Reduction Team at the Borough council can give further advice.

This time of year is also a good time to remind those of us who enjoy a drink to do so responsibly. If you are going to an office or an evening party, the best advice is not to drink anything if you intend to drive. Identify a designated driver who can stick to the soft drinks. Also, when out at a pub or a bar be careful with your drink to ensure it doesn't get spiked. Such occurrences are rare but can have disastrous consequences. Never leave your drink unattended.

Throughout November, the Crime & Disorder Reduction Team of the Borough council have undertaken a fear of crime survey in, Priestwood, Harman's Water / Martins Heron, Great Hollands and Sandhurst. A similar exercise was undertaken two years ago in the same area and this is a follow up survey to see what has changed. The full results will be published next year and thank you to all those who took the time to complete the forms. If you haven't sent the form back we could still use the information. Thank you also to those people who completed the questionnaire sent out by the Neighbourhood Action Groups to every home in the Borough to ascertain what people would most like to see changed in their neighbourhood. Those results will be fed back to each NAG and the police and the council will be working to support the NAGs to address the issues that are identified.

At the time of writing the reduction in the level crimes known as the British Crime Survey Comparator Crimes, has fallen by over 16% this year. Bracknell Forest is a low crime area and we are striving with your help to make it safer.

Have a very happy Christmas and New Year.
Ian Boswell