

Neighbourhood News

December 2009

NEWSLETTER OF THE POLICE SERVICE OF NORTHERN IRELAND

HELP PREVENT RURAL CRIME

Criminals operating in rural areas have been targeting trailers and horse boxes over recent months.

Owner's need to take steps to secure their property against theft and should keep valuable items securely locked away when not in use. The benefits of fitting tracking devices to vehicles and equipment should not be dismissed or overlooked either. Similarly, outhouses, barns, yards, laneways and fields also need to have a crime prevention 'make over' with gates being padlocked to prevent easy vehicular access.

Be wary of people calling and asking for directions. They could be checking out what security measures you have in place and what equipment has been left out potentially for them to steal.

If you see a vehicle being loaded onto a trailer or lorry, or see a trailer being towed on roads in your area late at night, do please note the registration number of the vehicle concerned and contact the police straight away.

DOMESTIC ABUSE – Can affect anyone at any time regardless of age or gender. Holidays and periods of financial strain such as Christmas impact on relationships and bring this type of problem to a head. Don't suffer in silence. Help is readily available from police.

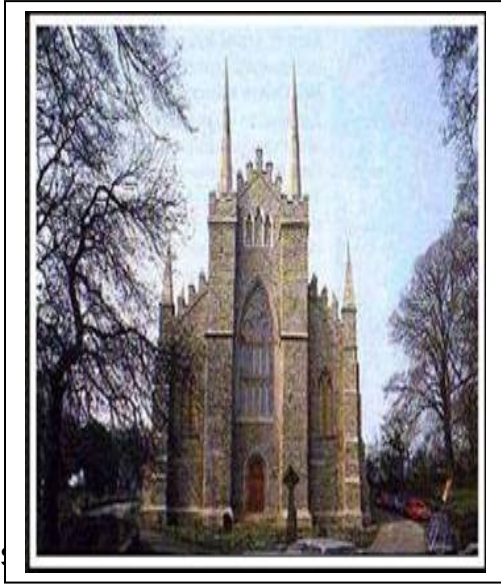
HOW TO CONTACT US: You can contact police while on patrol, by appointment or at a Police Station. You can also phone us on 0845 600 8000, or on the relevant numbers for your neighbourhood officers from this site.

Information about crime can also be passed to the Crimestoppers charity anonymously on freephone 0800 555 111.

We look forward to hearing from you and to working with you to make the Borough safer for everyone.

In an emergency always dial '999'.

SEASONS GREETINGS: Chief Inspector Deirdre Bones and her colleagues would like to thank the people of the Down District for their continuing support, and wish everyone a happy, peaceful, and crime free Christmas and New Year!



NEVER EVER DRINK AND DRIVE.

VEHICLE SECURITY - Don't leave presents or any valuables unattended in your car.

HOME SECURITY – Avoid leaving gifts under the Christmas tree or anywhere in your home that they can easily be seen by prying eyes. Also please ensure that doors are kept locked – even while you are in the house and that handbags and car keys are out of view. It only takes a couple of seconds for the canny thief to lift these items from kitchen work benches or hall tables.

BEWARE OF PICKPOCKETS - Keep handbags zipped closed when on your person, and don't leave them open or unattended in shopping trolleys.

GET HOME SAFE – Plan your transport home before setting off for a night out. If walking home stick to well lit areas, and switch off the MP3 player so that you are more aware of your surroundings.

