



Absafe Community Safety Bulletin

This Issue December 8th 2016

Absafe Bulletin



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe

STAYING SAFE WITH THE FAMILY AT CHRISTMAS

Christmas is always a busy time with presents to buy, meals to plan and family and friends to entertain. With so much going on, safety isn't at the top of everyone's minds, so Absafe has put together some top tips from our partners to help keep you, your home and family safe whilst you have fun during the holidays.



TOP TOY TIPS

Buying presents for family is fun for everyone but it's important to make sure that the toys you buy are safe. The Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) and the British Toy and Hobby Association recommend the following tips

when buying gifts for the younger people in your family:

- Always purchase from retailers that you've heard of, with a good reputation
- Markets or new, temporary shops often sell illegally imported toys that often don't meet strict toy safety requirements. These toys may seem like a bargain but they are not built to safe standards and could be dangerous for little ones
- Make sure you look at the age range on the toy packaging, as babies and toddlers can choke on small parts or swallow harmful parts of the toy. Toys that are not meant for young children are clearly marked.
- On the big day itself, make sure stairs are free from clutter. Children will be rushing around to find visitors, open presents and play with their new toys, so remove things that could cause a bad fall down stairs.
- Look out for small things that young children can choke on. Put small decorations high out of reach, tidy away small plastic toys from crackers and put small batteries (particularly the round, silver ones) out of reach of little fingers.



COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

Make sure visitors to the house, such as grandparents, don't leave medicines in places where children can find them, for example in handbags or counted out on bedside cabinets. Medicines are the most common cause of accidental poisoning in children, with everyday painkillers a frequent culprit.

If you're staying with relatives or friends over Christmas, remember that the top bunk of bunk beds can be dangerous for children under six. Bear in mind that safety items you might have at home, such as stair gates and cupboard locks, might not be available where you are staying.

'TIS THE SEASON

The kitchen can be a hectic place on Christmas day. Keep young children out of the kitchen while you're preparing Christmas dinner and all the trimmings, to avoid burns and scalds. One in ten children's accidents occur in the kitchen.

Clear away any bottles of alcohol and the last dregs of drinks left in glasses as even small amounts of alcohol can poison young children.

Message from Police Scotland

PHISHING AND EMAIL SCAMS

Police Scotland has made us aware of a number of email scams that are targeting personal and business email addresses.

These emails appear to come from 'donotreply' followed by the victims' own email extension, for example 'donotreply@absafe.org.uk.'

The subject line is shown as a series of random numbers and letters, and includes an attachment, with the current date followed by random digits in the file name.

These attachments typically contain a password stealing component, with the aim of stealing your bank, PayPal or other financial details along with your email log in credentials. Many of them are also designed obtain your Facebook and other social network log in details. Similarly, a very high proportion also contain Locky ransomware, that once downloaded will encrypt files and demand money, typically about £350, to recover the files.

Here's some advice if you think you may have been targeted;

- Don't click on links or open any attachments you receive in unsolicited emails or SMS messages. Remember that fraudsters can 'spoof' an email address to make it look like one used by someone you trust. If you are unsure, check the email header to identify the true source of communication. Information on how to locate email headers can be found at <https://mxtoolbox.com/Public/Content/EmailHeaders/>
- Always install software updates as soon as they become available. Whether you are updating the operating system or an application, the update will often include fixes for critical security vulnerabilities.
- Most anti-virus software contains an 'anti-spyware' scan which may be able to detect key loggers. If your current software does not offer this function, consider installing software which does - both free and paid for anti-spyware is widely available.
- Create regular backups of your important files to an external hard drive, memory stick or online storage provider. It's important that the device you back up to is not left connected to your computer as any malware infection could spread to that device as well.
- If you think your bank details have been compromised, you should contact your bank immediately.
- If you have been affected by this, or any other fraud, report it to Action Fraud by calling 0300 123 2040, or visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk

WHAT'S ON ABSAFE?

ABSAFE @ AKER SOLUTIONS



As part of our awareness raising campaign Malcolm, Jac and Laura visited Aker Solutions this week to encourage employees to choose Absafe as their charity of the year.

With voting due to close at the end of this week, the trio spread the word about Absafe's work in the community, schools and the corporate world.

RADIO SUPERSTARS

Jac and Malcolm appeared on live radio this week to promote the benefits of volunteering. Our friends at ACVO asked if we'd like to visit Station House Media Unit (SHMU) to provide listeners with an update as to what's been happening at Absafe, as well as what new skills volunteering can bring. Our dynamic duo visited Mike Melvin and Lady Ghada's hour-long show and are already planning their next appearance.

Don't forget, we need more volunteers to help us provide our award winning sessions. Contact us today on volunteers@absafe.org.uk



Noteworthy Property Incidents (Homes, Gardens & Vehicles):

Police Scotland has provided the following list of incidents which have occurred in your area this week as a snapshot of the current crime trends. All incidents are not recorded below, either for legal reasons or where there are issues of sensitivity. The statistics below should not be seen as an accurate reflection of all crime in your area but as a way of raising your awareness to crime in general. This in turn should allow you to take the appropriate safety/security steps to prevent yourself from being a victim of crime.

NORTH				
TIME PERIOD	LOCATION	CRIME TYPE	INFORMATION	
BUCKSBURN				
26/11/16	26/11/16	Wellheads Road	HBWI	Gained entry to premises with intent to steal
29/11/16	30/11/16	Corse Avenue, Kingswells	Theft from a motor vehicle	Entered insecure vehicle and stole from within
29/11/16	30/11/16	Migvie Gardens, Kingswells	Theft from a motor vehicle	Entered insecure vehicle and stole from within
BRIDGE OF DON				
NORTHFIELD				
25/11/16	28/11/16	Marchburn Drive	Theft from a motor vehicle	Cut exhaust pipe from vehicle
MASTRICK				
27/11/16	27/11/16	Hallfield Road	Theft by OLP	Forced entry to vehicle and stole from within
TILLYDRONE				
KITTYBREWSTER				
24/11/16	25/11/16	Gillespie Place	Theft by OLP	Forced entry to vehicle and stole from within
SEATON				
24/11/16	25/11/16	Erroll Street	Theft	Stole rear number plate from complainer's car
SOUTH				
CITY CENTRE				
NIGG				
TORRY				
HAZLEHEAD				

27/11/16	27/11/16	Woodburn Avenue	Theft	Entered insecure dwelling and stole property including car keys, thereafter stole cars from outside
26/11/16	27/11/16	Craigiebuckler Avenue	Theft	Entered insecure car and stole from within
28/11/16	29/11/16	Millside Road, Peterculter	Theft by OLP	Forced entry to vehicle and stole from within
ROSEMOUNT				
WEST END				

Key: HB - House Breaking

OLP - Open Lockfast Place

OLPWI - Open Lockfast Place with Intent

HBWI - House Breaking with Intent

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