



## **Seasonal Greetings from Greater Manchester**

**Fire and Rescue Service**

**And**

**Greater Manchester Police**

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Bury Borough from Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service along with our colleagues from the Bury Division of Greater Manchester Police would like to wish all the readers of the weekly Home-Watch Newsletter a joyful festive period and prosperous New Year. Below is a list of "12 days of Christmas" safety messages. Please take time to read the messages and remember them for the year ahead.

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- On the 1<sup>st</sup> day of Christmas – Make sure you test your smoke alarm. Don't be tempted to remove the batteries to power a Christmas present and if you or anyone you know haven't already got a smoke alarm, contact Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service (GMFRS) on 0800 555 815 for a Home Safety Check, which many include the fitting of smoke alarms.
- On the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of Christmas – If you're going out to celebrate Christmas, always remember to plan your journey in advance, know how you're going to get there and how you are going to get home, stay with friends (there is safety in numbers), book a taxi or go to a taxi rank and take a registered cab home – don't be tempted to get into any vehicle parked up outside a pub or club.
- On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Day of Christmas – Always keep car keys out of sight and away from windows and doors.
- On the 4<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas – Never leave candles burning whilst unattended, make sure they are on a non-flammable base and keep them clear of your furnishings, Christmas decorations and Christmas tree – as your tree begins to dry out it becomes highly flammable.
- On the 5<sup>th</sup> Day of Christmas – Don't leave presents on view from windows under your tree – it's an invitation to burglars.
- On the 6<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas – Make sure you, your family and any guests that may be staying are aware of what they need to do in the event of a fire. Make a fire escape plan.
- On the 7<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas – When you're out, always remember to switch on the burglar alarm.
- On the 8<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas – Never leave cooking unattended. If a pan of food should catch fire, DO NOT attempt to tackle the fire – turn off the heat if it is safe to do so, close the door to the kitchen, get everyone together and leave the property, once outside dial 999.
- On the 9<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas – Always keep your doors closed and locked, even when you're in, to keep out unwanted guests. Closed doors will

also protect your escape route and prevent a fire from spreading for approximately 15 minutes.

- On the 10<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas – Never overload electrical sockets. If you are using decorative lights outside your house make sure they conform to the British Standard and fit them with a 'Residual Current Device' which is designed to instantly switch them off if there is a fault.
- On the 11<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas – If you find yourself rushing round doing last minute shopping; be aware of your surroundings, unplug the iPhone, iPod etc. and plug in the ears so you know what is going on around you.
- On the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Christmas – Keep an eye on the elderly, particularly if we are going through a cold snap. Make sure they are safe from fire and if you have concerns about the safety of an elderly person in their home, contact GMFRS on 0800 555 815 or Greater Manchester Police on 101.

