



policebeat

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Happy Christmas to all our readers from Santa, his willing helpers and all at the PFNI

also inside this issue **Christmas Messages • National Police Memorial Day • Terrorism Reports • Belfast Pride 2018 • NBPA Conference**

A very Happy Christmas from all at the PFNI



The one thing you can say with absolute certainty is that there is no such thing as 'routine' for any of us. The challenges that are faced are varied involving

different levels of intensity and, of course, risk.

The year that is now drawing to a close saw officers stretching themselves to maintain a policing service that makes us justifiably proud. The PSNI is several hundred officers below what it should be, which makes the overall effort of our men and women at the sharp end even more noteworthy.

In addition to providing legal, health and welfare services, the PFNI also focused on pay, or rather the lack of it, and legacy issues. Considerable work went into drafting a comprehensive

Submission on the past and how we believe the Government should be proceeding.

Legacy formed a large part of our Public Affairs work which, it is fair to say, reached new heights. We organised and conducted extensive and detailed briefings with national and Northern Ireland politicians including Government Ministers and advisers.

In September, Belfast was the venue for this year's National Police Memorial Day (NPM). The occasion in the Waterfront Hall was attended by two thousand people, the Home Secretary, Sajid Javid, and his Northern Ireland Cabinet colleague, Karen Bradley. The event was conducted with great decorum and solemnity and the consensus afterwards was that it was deeply appreciated by families and colleagues who were honouring the memory of loved ones and friends.

Remembrance is never far from our thoughts at this time of year. We also think of our families, their selflessness and the

immense contribution they make as officers juggle with last-minute roster changes and demanding work patterns. Partners and children also make sacrifices and to them we say a big 'thank you.'

A lot of us will have a little time off over the festive period which will afford opportunities to recharge batteries and put the daily policing challenges to one side. Of course, for others it will be 'business as usual' over Christmas and the New Year as they respond to calls for help from the public and continue the essential work of thwarting paramilitarism and terrorist attacks.

Irrespective of whether you are on or off duty, please be mindful of the need to remain vigilant and your personal security.

On behalf of all of us at PFNI offices in Garnerville, I would like to wish you, and your families, a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Mark Lindsay,
Chairperson, PFNI

Chief Constable's Christmas Message

As we approach Christmas we look back on what has been another year of high demand on the Police Service of Northern Ireland. I also know that the demand for our service does not stop over the Christmas period, and while some of you may be preparing for leave, many others will be working right through the holiday period.

For many of you that will mean hard days and long nights, which can often come at the expense of time with your families and friends. As others enjoy the festivities, police officers and staff will be working hard to prevent and detect harm on our roads, in our busy city centres and protecting the vulnerable behind closed doors.

But we have continued to deliver our service even with less money, fewer people and against the backdrop of an ever present severe threat. Likewise, the ongoing Brexit issue is ensuring further challenges and much uncertainty.

Despite this complex and challenging environment confidence in the PSNI and in you, remains at around 90%. Your commitment to Keeping People Safe by Policing with the Community continues to be a constant source of inspiration and pride to me while your professionalism gives me confidence that the PSNI will meet any of the challenges we face.

On behalf of myself, and the Service Executive Team, thank you for what you

do and I will finish by wishing you your family and friends, a safe and peaceful Christmas and a happy New Year.

Chief Constable George Hamilton
Police Service of Northern Ireland

