

PLEASE DO NOT REPLY TO THIS MESSAGE.

If you or someone you know is vulnerable and has been a victim of fraud, please call Essex Police on 101.

Report fraud or attempted fraud by contacting Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.

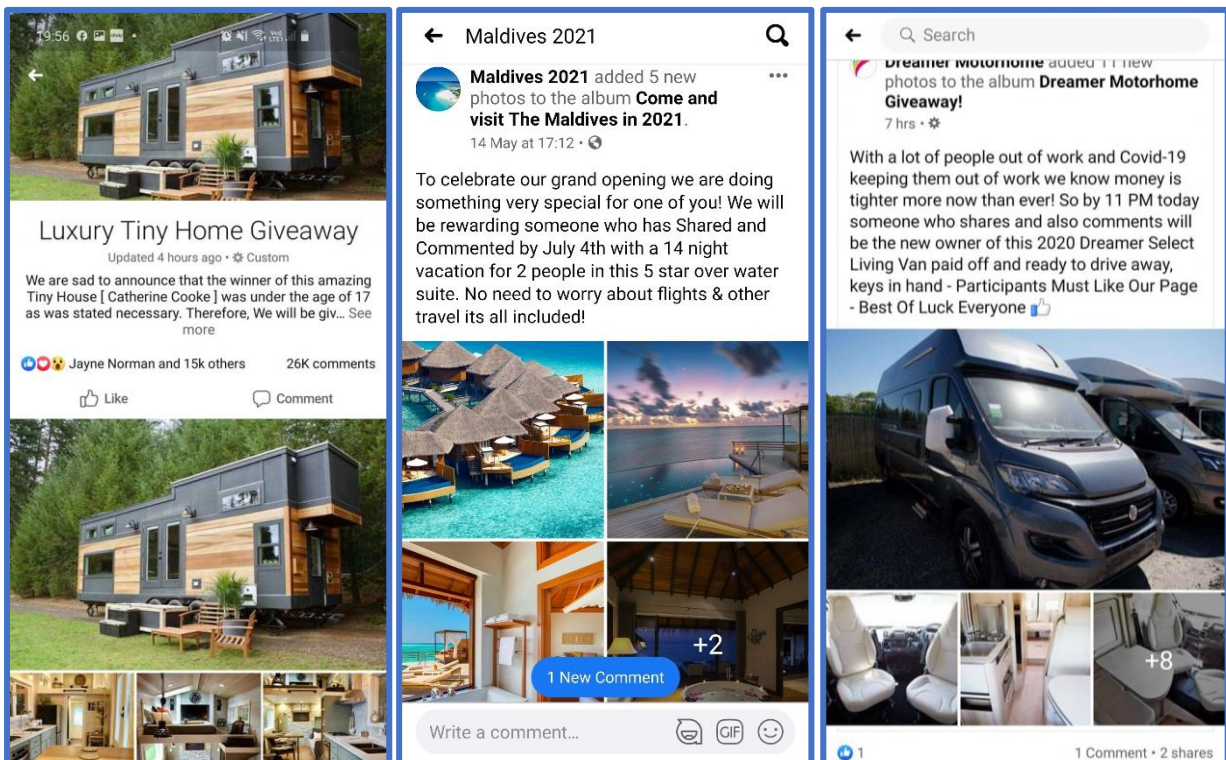
FAKE FACEBOOK GIVEAWAYS

Since the start of lockdown there has been an abundance of Facebook posts offering competitions and giveaways – from cars, to motorhomes, to holidays to the Maldives.

Normally the page will ask you to “Like” their page and “Share” the post. Seems pretty reasonable?

Except that by doing so you are giving that page access to information such as your date of birth, email address, and friends list. All the things which we change our settings for, in order to keep private!

Each time the post is shared, the criminals widen their audience in the hope that someone else will fall for it!

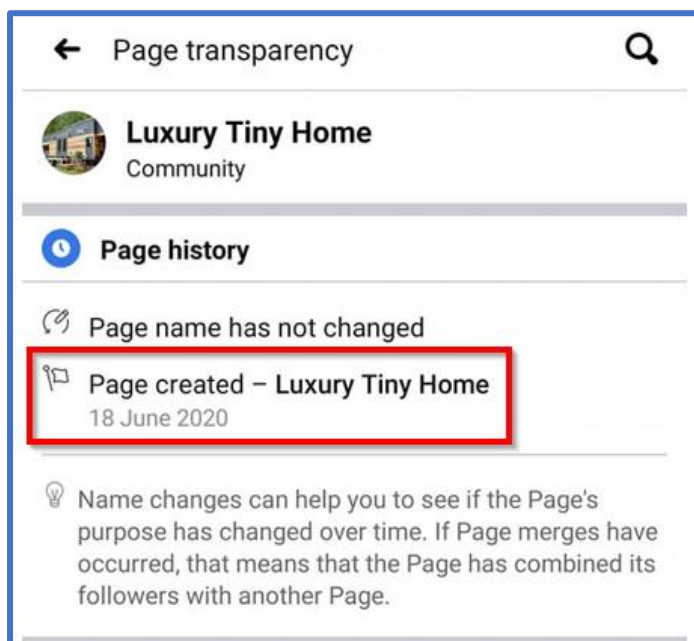


'Tell2, protect many' is a communication initiative that empowers you to spread crime prevention messages to others in your life, who otherwise may never know. Start with 'tell2' and ask them to do the same. It starts with YOU!

WHAT CAN I DO?

Check the Page

If you visit a page, you can choose to check "Page Transparency". Most of the time these pages are only a few hours old and therefore are unlikely to be the genuine company.



Don't Grant Permissions

When you click to "accept" third party permissions, you often don't know what you are agreeing to. Allowing scammers access to your device information can compromise your identity and grant them access to personal information.

Never Give Out Personal Information

Don't be tempted to provide personal details or enter details into a webpage in order to "validate" your win.

Don't Complete Surveys

Finally, some scammers ask you to complete a survey to be entered into their competition. These surveys can install malware on your computer or harvest your data.

Remember – if it looks to good to be true, it usually is!

If only warning messages like this were shared 37,000 times in a day!

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