



HERTFORDSHIRE

CONSTABULARY

Royston Rural Watch, July 2016

PCSO Chris Brabrook 6522, PC Mike Hardiman 2787 &
PCSO 6531 Penny Tomsett

Sgt Guy Westwood 1604



***Our Non -
Emergency
Number 101***

Copper stolen from church roof in Clothall – Heritage Crime 14/06/2016



Police are investigating an incident of heritage crime at St Mary's Church in Clothall, Baldock where thousands of pounds worth of copper has been stolen from the roof.

Heritage crime is any offence which harms heritage assets. It can include architectural theft, anti-social behaviour, criminal damage, unauthorised excavation and metal detecting, damage caused by vehicles, metal theft or theft of historical and cultural property.

The theft is believed to have taken place between Thursday, June 2 and Wednesday, June 8. Offenders stole half of the copper on the whole roof and they had to remove tiles to get to it and therefore would have been up there for some time. A vehicle would also have been needed to transport the stolen metal.

The 'Church of St Mary the Virgin' dates back to the 12th Century and sadly because the theft was not discovered for a couple of days, rain water has also got into the building and damaged some of the church fixtures.

PC Shaun Deal, who is investigating, said: "I am appealing to anyone who has been in the local area over the past couple of weeks and has seen any suspicious activity around the church to get in touch.

"Not only has the theft caused the church considerable damage on the roof, it has also damaged the building internally as well. Church buildings such as this are an important part of our heritage and mindless theft such as this only serves to ruin an important part of our history for generations to come."

Anyone with information is asked to contact PC Deal via the Hertfordshire Constabulary non-emergency number 101, quoting crime reference number G3/16/314. Alternatively call Crimestoppers, the independent charity, on 0800 555 111.

Help Protect Hertfordshire's Heritage Sites

In April 2014, Hertfordshire Constabulary launched Heritage Watch - a scheme which aims to protect the county's thousands of historical sites, monuments and artefacts from heritage crime.

Offences have become more prevalent in recent years as criminals have turned their attention to metal theft and the illegal trade of assets. Putting right damage caused to heritage assets can lead to repair bills of hundreds of thousands of pounds.

Through Heritage Watch, the Constabulary hopes to protect our heritage by improving communication between people who live near these sites, those who have an interest in the county's history and the police.

Chief Constable, Andy Bliss said: "It's so important to protect Hertfordshire's historical and cultural assets for future generations.

"People who live close to historical sites and those who have an interest in our local history tend to frequent the county's heritage sites more often and are more likely to notice anything suspicious.

"Through joining up, we hope the public will become the 'eyes and ears' of these precious sites and artefacts and will report anything suspicious to us."

The public can sign up to become members via the Constabulary's web page where further information can also be found:
www.herts.police.uk/HeritageWatch.

Join Neighbourhood Watch in Hertfordshire to help reduce crime

Watch schemes in Hertfordshire are celebrating national Neighbourhood Watch (NHW) Week this month with a call to drum up even more members, targeting that elusive 18 to 30 age group. Already with 100,000 homes signed up, by February 2016, and more joining every week, police and watch members continue to build the crime-busting community.

Join Neighbourhood Watch in Hertfordshire to help reduce crime



Wholly supported by Hertfordshire's Police & Crime Commissioner David Lloyd, Watch scheme play an integral part in the 'Public Focus' aim of his five year Police & Crime Plan 'Everybody's Business'.

Commissioner Lloyd said: "Active citizens are vital to supporting the delivery of policing and community safety. Some people are happy to go as far as becoming volunteer police officers, as part of the Special Constabulary, but others can play their part by being a member of a watch scheme –

keeping up to date with police action in your neighbourhood, protecting your property against burglars and thieves by following the advice given, looking out for your neighbours and reporting suspicious activity."

Police/Watch Scheme Co-ordinator Julie Lloyd said: "It is fantastic that so many residents and businesses across Hertfordshire have signed up already but more people involved make it even stronger.

"We've managed to encourage people of all ages to sign up but there aren't so many members under 30. We are working hard to encourage our younger residents to get on board too, because the kind of crimes that NHW can help prevent can happen to any resident, no matter what their age. Online scams and other cyber crimes, in particular, commonly happen to younger people.

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"You don't have to play a dynamic role, simply signing up for messages and watching out for your neighbours is all you need to do to be part of Neighbourhood Watch, although there are plenty of opportunities to play a bigger role as a street or area co-ordinator if you want to do more.

Watch schemes use the award-winning OWL (Online Watch Link www.owl.co.uk) to communicate messages securely and send police crime

alerts and crime prevention advice. Earlier this month it enabled police to quickly find a vulnerable missing woman in Welwyn Garden City when a member saw the appeal and spotted the woman.

Chair of Herts Watch, which oversees the county's watch schemes, Sue Thompson, said:

“This is the power of NHW – local people with local knowledge helping the police. It is just one of a number of positive direct results where members of the public have helped police. Members are also able to help prevent crime and improve the neighbourhoods we all live in. There's no reason not to join – and what better time than Neighbourhood Watch Week!”

A survey of OWL recipients, carried out last month, showed that half of the people who responded feel safer in their own homes since receiving OWL messages, 87 per cent said they are more aware of scams and rogue traders since joining up and local crime alerts, scam and fraud alerts are the most useful messages they receive.

National Neighbourhood Watch Week runs from Saturday June 18 to Sunday June 26. Herts Watch, Police officers and PCSO across the county encourage people to sign up to OWL throughout the year and tailor their messages to reach relevant households and watch scheme members to share relevant crime information with crime prevention advice.

To join Neighbourhood Watch, or find out more about OWL, please visit www.herts.police.uk or www.owl.co.uk or contact your Safer Neighbourhood Team by calling 101.

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**Police and Crime
Commissioner**
for Hertfordshire



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Local Crime Information

G4E - Ashwell, Hinxworth, Bygrave, Newnham and Caldecote

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/16/422	Damage	Ashwell – West End	3 rd June to 4 th
Eggs thrown at property and smashed a window			
Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/16/488	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Hinxworth – New Inn Road	21 st to 25 th June
Number plates stolen from a vehicle parked on a driveway			

G4D – Barley, Barkway, Reed, Therfield, Kelshall and Nuthampstead

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/16/438	Burglary - Dwelling	Barkway – Cambridge Road	3 rd June to 4 th June
Forced sash window, entry not gained, outbuilding search and nothing taken			
Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/16/457	Burglary - Dwelling	Reed – Church Lane	7 th June
Side door forced, untidy search and a vehicle was stolen from the drive			
Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G4/16/457	Burglary - Dwelling	Barley – Church End	2 nd June
No sign of forced entry, tidy search and property removed			

G3C - Sandon, Wallington, Rushden, Clothall and Weston

Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G3/16/314	Theft	Clothall Church	2 nd June
Offenders have removed copper from the church roof			
Crime No.	Offence	Location	Date
G3/16/333	Damage	Quickwood, Clothall	15 th to 16 th June
Damage to a gamekeepers traps on the farm			

Your local Neighbourhood Police Teams website

<http://snt.herts.police.uk/Teams.aspx?TeamID=G01>

Useful Links

<http://www.herts.police.uk/>

<http://www.doglost.co.uk/>

<http://www.stolenhorseregister.com/>

Royston Rural Neighbourhood Team Tel – 01438 757935