

# NEIGHBOURHOOD PRIORITIES



## **WARNING TO ALL CHURCHES \*\* THEFTS OF LEAD (April 2011)\*\***

**THE PROBLEM:** The church buildings we so often take for granted throughout the UK are under threat because of the massive rise in metal theft. With lead prices rising sharply it is becoming a valuable commodity for thieves.

**Please be aware.....**

Thieves are operating in this area!

In particular they are targeting lead from Church Roofs in the Calne area and surrounding Villages. Most recently there was an attempt theft of lead from St Martins Church, Bremhill in the early hours of 01/05/2011.

It is part of our ongoing patrol strategy to target metal thieves and we are asking communities to be vigilant and ensure they keep an eye out for suspicious activity around our local Churches.

**Advice for You (Local residents)....**

- Look for lights on at the church grounds at night time.
- Look for anyone who appears to be working on the church and check they are doing so legitimately.
- If you have CCTV make sure it is in working order and maintained. It's a good idea to check that the camera is pointing in the right direction and the recording loop is at least 24 hours long.
- Listen out for the sounds of vehicles stopping/ starting near to the church at night.
- Make sure you log and report any suspicious activity. Write down any Index numbers of unidentified vehicles/ Lorries parked near to the church and possible descriptions of people and vehicles.

Whilst the police are doing a great deal of work to tackle this problem (making arrests and raising public awareness) your help is still very much needed and we hope by working together we will be able to put a stop to this damaging trend.

**Please have a look at the Church Alert Website for more advice....**

**[www.churchalert.co.uk](http://www.churchalert.co.uk)**

**You can also contact your local Officers via email:  
[marlboroughnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:marlboroughnpt@wiltshire.pnn.police.uk)**

**In an EMERGENCY dial 999, all NON-EMERGENCY calls 0845 408 7000**

(Your call will be recorded)

[www.wiltshire.police.uk](http://www.wiltshire.police.uk)