

## Information sheet No. 1



### What to do if you are a victim of theft

- Phone the police immediately, giving a clear description of the horse, tack, trailer, etc.
- If your horse is Freezemarked, phone the company, which will circulate slaughterhouses, sales, etc. with details of your horse.
- If you are in a Horsewatch scheme, phone another member to set the 'early warning grapevine' into action - or phone local horsey friends to alert them to thieves in the area.
- When the police arrive, give them your horse's description and recent photos, list of tack stolen, trailer description, etc. Also, any information you have on anything suspicious you have seen recently, ie strangers in the yard, boxes parked nearby, etc.
- Phone your insurance company. They need to know and may provide you with recovery expenses.
- If necessary, phone horse sales and slaughterhouses with details of your horse (address list from the British Horse Society). You can follow these up with visits, armed with your horse's description and photos.
- Alert weekly and monthly equestrian press and local press, and put up 'stolen' horse notices in local shops, riding schools and saddlers.

The British Horse Society (BHS), in conjunction with the Horses and Ponies Protection Association (HAPPA), the police and freezemarking companies MMB Farmkey and Equestrian Security Services, are setting up a database of horse and tack thefts to help identify any trends or patterns. If you have been a recent victim of theft, send details of the location (nearest town and county), owner's name, whether the horse or tack was recovered and when to Mr Eric Ellis, National Equine Welfare Officer at the BHS.