

The E-Bound Voice

Christmas 2022



E-Bound's
12 Ghosts
of Xmas



E-Bound on
the BBC

New Office
Expansion

www.e-bound.co.uk

Find us on social media



Front cover photo: Langford Church, Somerset
(Photo credit: greenwoodfunerals.co.uk)

E-Bound AVX Limited is a private limited company registered in England. Registered number 6930086.
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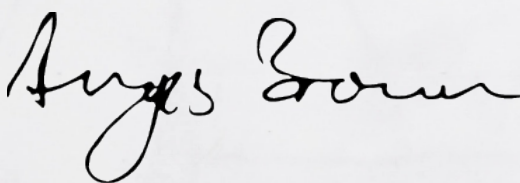
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As we progress through Advent and approach the celebration of Christmas, we know this year Christmas itself will be challenging for everyone trying to cope with the increased cost of living and soaring fuel bills. Worldwide, many face even more daunting conditions.

Yet, let us remember that Christmas is about rejoicing in a message of hope for a brighter future that overcomes despair. Whatever our individual circumstances, backgrounds, or beliefs, this is the season to care for one another and to embrace the spirit of togetherness, which unites us all.

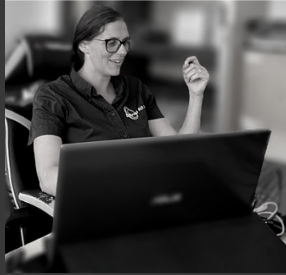
This has been a tough year, but also a highly fulfilling one. We have witnessed warmth, care and commitment demonstrated at every turn. I would like to sincerely thank you for your valued support and pass on our warmest wishes to you and your loved ones.

May your Christmas be a time of good cheer, companionship and celebration for you and those you love – and may 2023 bring peace, justice and reconciliation here and elsewhere in the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angus Brown". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Angus Brown
Managing Director, E-Bound AVX Ltd

Meet the team



Hannah Goodley-Jones
Director of Operations



Angus Brown
Managing Director



Lynne Franklin
Director of Finance



Nick Meadows
Operations Assistant



Sharny Day
Admin Manager



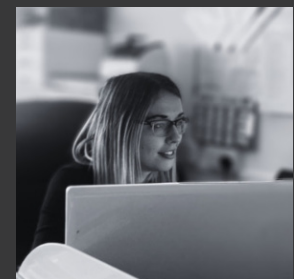
Sarah Medcalf
Finance Manager



Sophie Britton
Operations Assistant



Colin McFadyzean
Admin Assistant



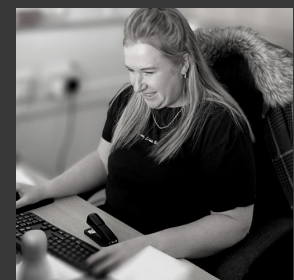
Vicki Cooke
Senior Finance Assistant



Stef Rossi
Operations Assistant



Katie Franklin
General Manager



Jade Skeels
Finance Assistant

Putting a face to a name

E-Bound on the Airwaves

On Friday 29th April, E-Bound managing director Angus Brown joined presenter Chris Goreham on his BBC Norfolk breakfast show to discuss metal theft in the county of Norfolk. Angus discusses the upward trend of metal theft following the initial drop due to COVID restrictions and lockdowns. E-Bound currently have around 50 churches in Norfolk that have roof alarms installed and around 1500 nationwide. The end of the pandemic restrictions has seen a rise in global metal prices, which in turn has seen the rise in the targeting and theft of materials like Lead and Copper. The full program also includes interviews with Kevin Thomas, Risk Manager from Ecclesiastical, specialist church insurers originally set up by the Church of England, who E-Bound have always worked closely with. E-Bound are still one of only six companies that are on the insurers approved supplies list for church roof alarms and in fact were instrumental in the writing of the standard that approved companies still adhere to today. Also featured in the show are several Norfolk churches who have been affected by metal theft and its consequences, including St Mary's Church, Beachamwell near Swaffham who experienced a devastating fire in February this year, following events set in motion by a theft of lead from the roof in 2019.

The show was broadcast towards the end of a county wide campaign, 'Stop the roof raiders' focusing on roof metal thefts in Norfolk.

Angus's interview and a section of the program are both available to listen to on our website [Here](#)



BBC Radio's Chris Goreham

B B C RADIO
NORFOLK

Office Move

They say all good things come to an end, but E-Bound's expansion isn't one of them. At the beginning in 2009, E-Bound operated from an office in Peterborough and a second in Lincolnshire. In 2020 we decided to merge the two offices to improve communication and day-to-day operations by sharing the same office in Peterborough. In October 2022 it was decided that the current offices at Litton House in Peterborough were no longer meeting the requirements of an ever-expanding business and therefore a new home was needed. E-Bound Managing Director Angus Brown has a long association with Litton House in Westwood, Peterborough stretching back almost twenty years, so it won't just be the staff that are experiencing an end of an era feeling at the relocation. *"We realised that we had outgrown our workplace and have found a more modern space that matches our growth ambitions and we look forward to serving you from our new location."*



New E-Bound offices situated in Southgate Park, Peterborough.

New office address:
Southgate Hub, Southgate Park, Bakewell Road
Orton Southgate, Peterborough,

E-Bound's 12 Ghosts of Christmas

Halloween may now be a distant memory this year, but as we enter this festive period with the nights drawing in there is still plenty of time for some supernatural tales. Put another log on the fire and settle down to some spooky tales from twelve reportedly haunted UK churches...and some of them just happen to be E-Bound customers too.

#1 Todmorden Unitarian Church, Yorkshire

Completed in 1869 the church was declared redundant in 1987 and came under the care of the Historic Chapels Trust. Although it still remains in the care of the trust, regular services have been held here since 2008. Paranormal activity reported includes disembodied voices, unexplained banging, shadow figures being seen as well as reports of people being scratched by unseen hands and temperature fluctuations.



#2 St Botolph's Church, Skidbrooke, Lincolnshire

this former Anglican Church dates back to the early 13th century, it was declared redundant in November 1973 and is now under the care of the Churches Conservation Trust (CCT). The church however has been targeted in more recent times by vandals and amateur ghost hunters. Activity reported here includes unusual light anomalies and even the sighting of a ghost monk.

#3 St Margaret's Church, Hempnall, Norfolk

A Paranormal group who spent the night there reported several instances of unexplained phenomena including the apparition of a woman with a pale face, several hooded shadow figures and doors slamming in deserted parts of the building.



#4 Holy Trinity Church, Ingham, Norfolk

Legend has it that on 1st August each year the two stone knights depicted within the church wake up. The stone effigies of Sir Oliver de Ingham and Sir Roger de Bois are said to leave the church and walk to Stalham Broad. Sir Roger de Bois is said to do battle with a middle eastern soldier and after defeating him the knights return to the church where they resume their sleep for another year.

#5 Holy Trinity Church, Barsham, Suffolk

Barsham Holy Trinity is one of around 40 round-tower churches in Suffolk. Paranormal activity reported here includes the apparition of a Georgian lady being seen, lights turning themselves on and off and the sound of disembodied footsteps being heard.



#6 St Mary's Church, Ashwell, Hertfordshire

This church is also renowned for having medieval graffiti which is carved on the north wall of the west tower which highlights the plight of survivors of the bubonic plague pandemic known as the Black Death. Written in Latin the carvings translate to "1350 Miserable, wild, distracted 1350/The dregs of the mob alone survive to witness". A headless ghost dressed in black has been reportedly seen in the churches' graveyard.





#7 All Saint's Church, Crondall, Hampshire

Originally dating from the Norman period, it has been called 'one of the finest parish churches in the country' and also the 'cathedral of North Hampshire'. The church was used as an 'improvised defence' during the civil war and figures dressed in attire matching Cromwellian troops have been witnessed in the grave yard. A solitary armoured Civil war soldier is also reportedly seen riding up to the church on horseback, with local residents reporting the sound of musket fire from time to time.

#8 St John the Baptist Church, Boughton, Northamptonshire

In 1875 on December 24th a young farmer by the name of William Parker was walking home from the pub in Moulton, when he happened to venture past the ruined church. In the dark sitting on the low wall surrounding the graveyard the man saw a young woman with red hair wearing a red woollen cape. The young woman called William over and he proceeded to sit and chat to her for a while. She suggested that Parker should meet her in the grave yard in exactly one month's time. The two parted with a kiss, but as she turned and walked towards the church gates, William noticed that her feet made no sound on the path.



#9 St Nichola's Church, Arundel, West Sussex

In 1940 an unknown photographer captured what is possibly an apparition of a man standing at the altar, even though nobody else was in the vicinity at the time the photo was taken. Other reported activity includes the apparition of a priest who is said to have killed a local squire and a brown lady who is seen in the motion of cleaning, but disappears when people get too close. She is thought to have been completely devoted to the church and continues her duties even after her death in 1907.

#10 Holy Sepulchre Church, Holborn Viaduct, London

The church is the largest parish church in the city. It was completely rebuilt in the 15th century, but was gutted by the Great Fire of London in 1666. During the Second World War the 18th Century watch-house, built in the churchyard to deter grave-robbers, was struck by a bomb and later had to be rebuilt. A former vicar is said to stand in the Sanctuary; other than his paleness, the phantom is said to look very real.



#11 St Mary's Church, Woodford, Northamptonshire

Still on display today in the church is a mummified human heart discovered during restoration work in 1867. There is also a framed newspaper cutting; this concerns a photograph of an alleged ghost taken in the church in 1964, by Gordon Carrol. Described sometimes as a monk, the ghost photo could be that of a local born Knight who died fighting in Palestine during the times of the crusades. This photo is thought to be the only photo of its kind, supposedly showing the apparition at prayer.

#12 Church of Christ the consoler, Skelton-cum-Newby, Yorkshire

This church was the location of one of the most famous alleged ghost photos ever taken. Known as the spectre of Newby Church or the Newby Monk. Taken in 1963 by the Reverend Kenneth F. Lord the figure appears to resemble a human, most speculation by believers has concluded that it resembles a 16th-century monk, with a white shroud over his face, possibly to mask leprosy or another disfigurement.



If you have enjoyed these ghostly tales from these UK churches, head over to YouTube and the Churches Conservations Trust channel and check out author David Castleton's Lunchtime Lecture '[British Churches Creepy Artefacts & Spooky Tales](#)' on the paranormal and church oddities. Stay tuned to E-Bound's social media as during December we will be posting our 12 Ghosts of Christmas, where we will be going into more detail regarding paranormal events at the ten churches and will be posting the ghostly photographs that were captured within them, so you can see for yourselves and decide what you

METAL THEFT

by Angus Brown

Throughout the past decade metal prices have progressively risen. Despite efforts and legislation to thwart the sale of stolen metals, copper and lead are now especially desirable commodities for thieves due to their availability, value and ease of recycling. Lead is an easily worked and corrosion-resistant metal which has been used since Roman times for pipes, pewter and paint. It has also been used in lead glazes for pottery and much more recently, in insecticides, hair dyes and as an anti-knocking additive for petrol. All of these uses have now been banned, replaced or discouraged as lead is known to be detrimental to health, particularly that of children. However, lead is still widely used for car batteries, pigments, ammunition, cable sheathing, weights for lifting, weight belts for diving, lead crystal glass, radiation protection and in some solders. It is still widely used in architecture, for roofing and in stained glass windows. Demand for lead worldwide is expected to grow, largely because of increased consumption in China, which is being driven by growth in the automobile and electric bicycle markets. Copper is used in electrical and heating equipment because its properties make it such a useful conductor. It is used in electric car motors, household pipes, electrical installations, and many other things we use every day. Like lead, copper is so easily recyclable that most of the copper on earth remains in the ground. It is estimated that only about 12 per cent of all copper on earth has been mined throughout human history and a high proportion of it remains in circulation. However, there is a group of commodity analysts warning about a copper shortage with dire consequences for the world economy. During 2021 investment bank Goldman Sachs published advice calling copper 'the new oil' and more importantly, the bank said copper prices could double in the next few years.

Wall Street believes copper will play a huge role in two major trends; electric vehicles and decarbonisation. If not enough copper is being mined from underground deposits or coming from scrap yards to feed the coming demand, this could lead to a severe copper shortage when all the big car companies start making more electric vehicles. The feared copper shortage isn't the world running out of copper, it's more about the current mining and recycling infrastructure not being able to meet a potential boom in demand. The last time copper prices peaked, just before the financial crisis in 2008 and 2009, people were stealing copper wires out of the ground, copper pipes, sheet roofing and even lightning conductors, which are usually made of a heavy gauge, high quality copper. At All Saints Church in Little Staughton, Bedfordshire when thieves ripped down and stole a copper lightning conductor, they accidentally pulled down the church spire too. Masonry from the spire crashed to the ground during the raid, causing an estimated £50,000 of damage in the process.

Due to the rising value of scrap metal, churches remain under constant threat of lead or copper being stolen from the exterior of the building. Insurers and the security industry have seen a shift over the years from these attacks being undertaken by lone, opportunistic individuals to more organised gangs. These gangs are marking easy targets and few places are as attractive as churches, for those who fear no divine retribution. Teams of thieves, many of whom may be experienced in the building trade, can strip a roof of sheet metal in a matter of hours. With correct technique, personnel and equipment, many tonnes of metal can be peeled or rolled and carted away. Some specialist church insurers are now reluctant to insure any churches with metal roofs. One defining characteristic of metal theft is the motivation. Whereas other items are generally stolen for their extrinsic value, metals are stolen for their intrinsic value as raw material or commodities. Thefts often have negative consequences much greater than the value of the metal stolen, such as damage and destruction to listed buildings and internal damage to timber and plaster work when roofs are stolen. At St Mary's, Kirtlington for example (see illustration), the thieves did not get away with much of the lead before a curious neighbour decided to call the police. Nevertheless, this clearly well-schooled gang was able to cause significant damage that will cost tens of thousands to put right, even if they didn't ultimately manage to take their spoils with them. The increase in organised crime in this field carries on in spite of a clampdown on unlawful scrap metal dealers in 2013 when the Scrap Metal Dealers Act was introduced. This made it illegal for dealers to operate without a licence or to pay cash for scrap metal, and all sellers of scrap metal had to show ID. This may have resulted in opportunist thieves leaving this field of crime to the more organised criminal gangs. The churches now targeted have been carefully chosen. Well-disciplined teams of people have come in, working fast to remove large amounts of lead and copper sheet roofing and other components before disappearing. As criminal activity develops, so does crime prevention technology.



St Mary the Virgin, Kirtlington, Oxfordshire, with neatly rolled up sheets of lead left by in a hurry by the burglars (Photo: Angus Brown)

“few places are as attractive as churches, for those who fear no divine retribution”.

Within the security industry there are numerous products for protecting internal spaces and some for the protection of exteriors, but there was little available for the supervision of roofs, possibly due to the high costs of installing these systems in listed building settings and operating them in the long term. Furthermore, there was no national standard (nor is there still) to guarantee a police response to an alarm where the detection equipment is located exterior to any premises. Ecclesiastical, a specialist church insurer worked with a number of firms to trial different systems which would best indicate and detect roof incursion while minimising nuisance alarms. Over a number of years a small number of companies demonstrated that their products could operate sufficiently well in order for risk to be minimised. Most church insurance companies now accept that where an approved alarm is installed they can provide full and unlimited insurance cover, thus shifting the risk of loss from the parish to a commercial insurer. The roof alarm is one of a range of measures highlighted by Historic England in a new series of leaflets on metal theft from places of worship. In particular, Theft of Metal from Church Roofs: Prevention and Response recommends starting with a risk assessment to identify the vulnerabilities and the measures which can be taken to make life difficult for the thieves.

Measures include:

- Reaching out and engaging with the neighbourhood, whether or not they are members of the congregation, so everyone works together to keep an eye on the building
- Encouraging walkers, visitors and worshippers to pop into the building and churchyard at random times, so it does not have an air of abandonment
- Securing items that are easily removed, such as the lower section of lightning conductors
- Keeping gates secure so lorries cannot access the site, removing anything that helps people climb on to a roof and using anti-climb paint on drainpipes and gutters
- Making the roof visible by, for example, maintaining trees and installing security lights, particularly at roof level
- Using proprietary metal marking systems so lead can be identified if stolen
- Installing an alarm system and/or a CCTV system.



Although lead is the most common metal roofing material used historically, copper was widely used for decorative effect, as here on the steeple of St Mary's, West Harptree. (Photo: Jonathan Taylor)



This article was included in the The Building Conservation Directory 'Historic Churches Magazine' Special Report 29th edition, 2022.



Artwork by Sharny Day



Christmas Wishes

From everyone here at



E-Bound

*We wish our customers a happy and
safe Christmas & New Year.*

The E-Bound Team



E-Bound AVX Ltd

E-Bound *Care*

Extended Warranty Package

E-Bound Care aims to eliminate sudden costs with an annual payment of just £265* a year.

**01733
843341**

*All prices are excluding VAT



Church Curiosities #1

Explore some of the UK's most unusual Church curiosities, from piles of bones and mummified remains to Demonic stained glass windows.

St Sepulchre, London EXECUTIONERS BELL



A London merchant named John Dowe purchased the bell in 1605. The bell was bought on the condition that it was used for one specific purpose. At midnight on a condemned man's execution eve the bellman of St Sepulchre's church would ring the bell twelve times outside the persons cell and as the prisoner was led out of Newgate Gaol to be taken to Tyburn Tree to be hanged.

St Leonard's, Hythe HUMAN BONES



St Leonard's Church, Hythe has the best preserved and largest collection of ancient human skulls and bones in Britain. The collection has over 1,000 skulls. The Crypt or 'Ossuary' has been targeted in recent times by thieves who stole over 20 skulls in 2018, possibly to sell on the black market.

St Gregory's, Sudbury ARCHBISHOP'S HEAD



Archbishop of Canterbury Simon of Sudbury was seized by insurgents after they stormed the Tower of London in 1381 as part of the peasants revolt. He was dragged to Tower Hill and beheaded with eight blows to the neck. His skull complete with some mummified skin is still on display in the church today.

Malmesbury Abbey Tiger Death



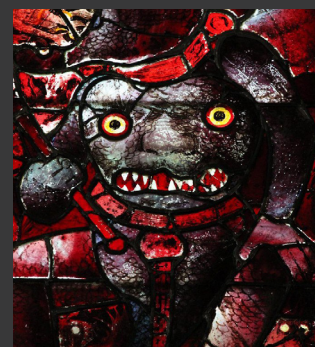
Hannah Twynnoy is believed to be the first person killed by a tiger in Britain. A bar maid at The White Lion public house in Malmesbury in the 18th century, she was killed after teasing the tiger who was part of a traveling menagerie that had set up in the village. Her gravestone still survives today in a corner of the churchyard at Malmesbury Abbey.

St Peter's, Marlow APOSTLE'S HAND



The hand of Saint James the Apostle is a holy relic brought to England by Empress Matilda in the 12th Century. During the Dissolution of the monasteries in 1539, English monks hid the hand in an iron chest in the walls of Reading Abbey. It was dug up by workmen in 1786 and given to Reading Museum. It now resides at St Peter's Church, Marlow.

St Mary's, Fairford DEMONIC STAINED-GLASS



Situated in the town of Fairford, the medieval church of St Mary's is notable for the nightmarish demons that lurk among the more conventual religious imagery in the stained-glass windows on the church. In a number of the central window panes, red and blue-skinned apparitions are depicted swinging spiked maces or holding tridents.

Alarm responsibility over Christmas period

Nominated contacts could be called by our alarm receiving centre Remote Watch Monitoring if an alarm signal has been received.

It is important that you accept their call and attend site as quickly as possible.

Save the Remote Watch telephone number so you know who's calling you **01484 404150**

Please note that this information does not apply if you have the 24h Response Officers service

DUTY CALLS

Key Facts That You Need to Know

- There should be a minimum of 3 contacts/ keyholders available 24/7
- Each keyholder should have transport and reside within 20 minutes of the property
- Remember to take keys to the property if necessary
- Please do not interfere with the alarm during or after an activation unless instructed to do so by a member of staff at E-Bound i.e. muting the alarm
- If you find any damage or suspicious activity, call the police immediately followed by our office

When you arrive at the property:

Do not put yourself at risk

Do not enter the property unless you are certain that it is safe to do so, if the emergency service have attended the site, follow any instructions given

Check carefully for suspicious vehicles and persons, but DO NOT approach them

What to Expect...

Alarm activates

Alarm receiving centre call keyholder

Keyholder attends site as soon as possible

Keyholder acts according to situation