

《英邮筒安装电子标签防盗》

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Traditional post boxes tagged to stop thieves after at least 100 are taken each year and sold for up to £5,000

Rural post boxes are being fitted with electronic tags to deter criminals from stealing them to sell for £5,000 or more.

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At least 100 of the traditional red boxes are taken every year, with those in isolated towns and villages most at risk.

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The 'significant threat' has driven the Royal Mail to tag what they say is 'part of the national image'.

“????”?????? Royal Mail??????“??????”??“?”????

Gangs are thought to be targeting the boxes after four Victorian ones were stolen from three Norfolk villages over just one weekend in January.

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Hi-tech equipment will be used to track boxes that go missing, a Royal Mail spokesman said, adding: 'Theft of post boxes is relatively rare but there are spates involving individuals or gangs.'

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'We have an internal security team looking at equipment including forensic tags, permanent metal-marking systems and electronic tracking.'

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There are thought to be 800 different types of post boxes in Britain, and unusual ones can command £5,700 at auction.

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They are thought to have become even more valuable after Royal Mail stopped selling old boxes in 2003, pushing up demand.

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Robert Cole, of the Letter Box Study Group enthusiasts' association, told the Daily Telegraph: 'There are people who are after scrap metal, those interested in the contents and those who know the boxes' heritage value.'

“????”Letter Box Study Group????????•???Robert Cole????????Daily Telegraph????“????????????????????????????????”

The group has found around 800 different types of post boxes around Britain.

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Vocabulary

spate????

forensic????

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