

Stolen ashes returned after Facebook appeal goes viral



Keith Nolan, who was heartened by the response to a Facebook appeal which led to the return of the ashes of his partner and unborn child.

The stolen ashes of a Waterford woman and her unborn child have been safely returned to her heartbroken partner.

Keith Nolan, whose partner Lorraine died last summer whilst five months pregnant with the couple's third child, made a plea on Facebook last week for the public's assistance after his home in Tramore was burgled on Wednesday evening.

Amongst the items stolen were a chain and capsule containing the ashes of Lorraine and their baby, which Keith usually wears around his neck.

"What I'm afraid of is it was thrown somewhere", Keith posted on Facebook. "The one time I took it off me, as I wear it everywhere. It's all I have left of her apart from the girls. If you know where it is or have found it can you please contact me."

Keith, who stood as an Independent candidate in last year's Local Elections and has been vocal in the anti water charge protests, was amazed when his appeal was shared over 14,000 times in a matter of hours.

The capsule - missing the chain - was returned through his letterbox overnight and he later took to Facebook to express his gratitude.

"Woke up to find the capsule in my hallway under letterbox in envelope, was a bit mucky but cleaned now and polished. Through research and help from the people of Tramore, word was put out that I didn't want names etc, just the ashes back.

"I am delighted they are back where they should be. And to the perpetrator, I hope you have learned a valuable lesson. Ashes are priceless to me. Again, from the bottom of my heart, thank you all so much x."