80,000 items of lost property handed into police

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A wedding dress and an ornamental stone are just two of the 80,000 items of lost property which have been handed into Police Scotland in the past year.

As well as seeking the owners of these unusual items, officers within the Lost Property Department have recently reunited an urn containing ashes to its owners.

The wedding dress was handed into the Glasgow office and the ornamental stone arrived at Dumfries by members of the public who found them.

If items are not claimed within three months most are sent to the monthly Police Scotland auction. However, bicycles which can be mended and re-cycled are given to dozens of different charities across the country including: The Coming Home charity, which involves ex-servicemen in community projects, Bikes for Africa, and Recycle to Cycle.

Angela Blair, National Productions Manager for Police Scotland said: "I'm not able to confirm if the bride who owns the wedding dress did make to the church on time, but we would really like to be able to reunite the dress with its owner.

"I also hope the owner of the ornamental stone will see the photograph and collect it, as it's very distinctive.

"We would encourage anyone who has lost an item to use our online form to report lost property. The information you provide is checked against the found property we have and owners contacted if there is a match. We have been able to reunite many owners this way.

"Any item with a serial number can be registered for free at www.immobilise.com.

The lost property form is on the Police Scotland website. Simply click on contact us, <u>report lost property</u>.