

'Raiders stole my memories'

Sally slams jewel thieves

RAIDERS have escaped with a haul of irreplaceable and distinctive jewellery worth thousands of pounds in a lightning raid which was over in minutes.

Civil servant Sally Hill has lost precious wedding, anniversary and birthday presents from her husband Peter and her father in the raid on her home in Amsterdam Road, Isle of Dogs.

Thieves burst through her front door and made straight for the bedroom where they rifled draws and grabbed sentimental gems from her jewellery box, including rings which worth several thousand pounds each. They struck while she was away from home.

"I feel angry and frustrated," she told the *Advertiser* on Tuesday. "They took everything. Everything had significance – it's all irreplaceable."

The thieves seem to know what they were looking for, she said. They also searched through husband Peter's belongings.

The alarm which rings for 20 minutes when there's a break-in was still going when a 'keyholder' neighbour arrived.

Distinctive pieces taken in the raid include a 13 carat Brazilian white gold and sapphire ring



Sally Hill with her empty jewellery case

with an aquamarine surrounded by diamonds and petals made up of miniature diamonds.

The raiders also made off with a "very beautiful" double clef-shaped piece made with an emerald and a baguette cut or rectangular diamond.

"I've had some of this jewellery since I was 16," Sally explained. "I had a signet ring when I was 16 and a garnet when I was 18. Peter is also interested in jewellery."

Meanwhile, detectives are appealing for anyone who may know anything about the 8pm Sunday night raid on August 4, or may have seen anything suspicious around Amsterdam Road in Cubitt Town, Isle of Dogs, to contact Tower Hamlets burglary squad on 020 8217 6689, or anonymously to Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.