

# Caravan, my a\*\*e! Royle Family star Ricky Tomlinson 'gutted' as thieves steal his £12,000 caravan

- Vehicle towed from Cheshire meadow where actor was making wildlife film
- He suspects 'well-organised gang' as caravan was not even on wheels

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**Disbelief:** Actor Ricky Tomlinson had been using the caravan as a base while filming a wildlife documentary

When Ricky Tomlinson bought a six-berth static caravan he found it to be the perfect place for a 'bit of peace and quiet'.

But the 72-year-old actor's peace has been shattered after thieves stole the £12,000 retreat from its picturesque riverside site.

Mr Tomlinson – who played Jim Royle in the BBC sitcom *The Royle Family* – said yesterday that he was 'gutted'.

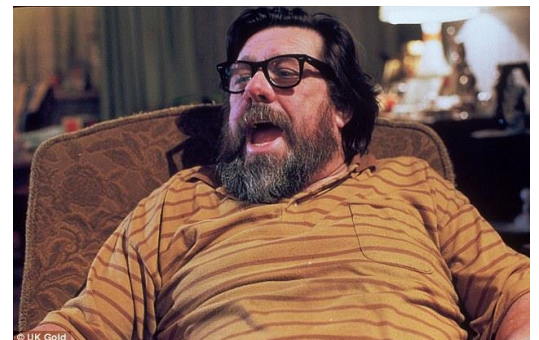
A gang took the 27ft caravan from the banks of the Dee in what the actor described as a 'well-organised' crime.

He pleaded for the return of his 'hobby' home, which he was using as a base to film wildlife for a TV documentary, and said: 'I can't believe it happened. It must have been a well-organised gang of thieves because it is a big, six-berth caravan which was not even on wheels.

'It was 2ft off the floor and resting on railway sleepers and breeze blocks because it was on a flood plain. The caravan was down a country lane over a mile long within a gated private meadow.

'They took the gate off its hinges and must have had a decent-sized vehicle to take it away.

'I am gutted because I was in the process of letting one of my mates use it for a little outing for his two kids.' Although Mr Tomlinson didn't discover the theft until the weekend, he believes the caravan may have been taken late last Wednesday or Thursday.





**Swiped: Ricky Tomlinson's caravan, which was sited in a Cheshire meadow and was propped up on breeze blocks and railway sleepers**

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He added: 'I have only had it for a couple of years and it is still in sparkling condition – it is immaculate. The plastic covering was still on the seats.'

'The caravan was in a great spot and I have filmed wildlife there, including woodpeckers, squirrels and buzzards, for a documentary I have been working on – just a little independent film.'

'There was everything there and it was a lovely place to go for a bit of peace and quiet.' The Hobby 635 caravan was parked in a meadow in the village of Farndon in Cheshire.

Lesley Chadderton, landlady of the Greyhound pub in the High Street, said: 'This is a peaceful village and we often see Ricky walking through and he always waves and says hello.'

'He is lovely and has a good heart and I can't believe that someone has stolen his caravan – it is disgusting.'

Mr Tomlinson and his wife Rita have a detached house in a suburb of Liverpool as well as a two-bedroom townhouse near Benidorm and a three-bedroom penthouse on Turkey's Aegean coast.

Cheshire police are investigating the theft of his caravan.

[Royle Family star Ricky Tomlinson 'gutted' as thieves steal his £12,000 caravan | Daily Mail Online](#)