

Police hunt after lonely Marion is found murdered

A LONELY Scots spinster has been found brutally murdered in her home.

Neighbours said they heard a loud thump in the middle of the night.

But it was only 14 hours later that the body of Marion Ross was eventually discovered.

It's believed her death may have been the result of robbers being disturbed during a break-in.

Marion, 51, was found dead in the ground floor of her semi-detached bungalow in Irvine Road, Kilmarnock.

The man leading the hunt for her killer, Detective Chief Inspector Stephen Heath, would only say last night her death had been "violent".

Noise

Marion, who never married and had no close family, worked at the Royal Bank of Scotland in the town until a few years ago.

Neighbour Isobella Gemmell said she feared that her house was being broken into when her terrier dogs started barking madly.

She said: "I thought something was funny and I heard a thumping noise from next door.

"It was unusual because I have never heard anything before from there.

"When I looked out the back in the morning our bin

Spinster's killing leaves neighbours living in fear

had been moved and it looked as if someone had been going through it.

"But I didn't suspect anything was wrong with Marion."

Her body was finally found around 6pm on Wednesday evening.

Detectives spent most of yesterday carrying out forensic tests inside the house

before starting door-to-door inquiries.

Marion's friend Maureen Stevens said nobody really knew her that well or got too close to her.

She said: "I have known her since she was 16 but she was a very nervous person and very lonely.

"I often felt she missed out on life but there was nothing I

could do about it. She loved gardening and reading books but she was very private.

"I am sick thinking about what happened to her.

"I am locking my doors because I don't believe it is safe here anymore."

Police are to stage an appeal today for help in tracing her killer.