

Firework Abatement Campaign

March 2019 REPORT

In our report we will show the distress caused to people and animals by fireworks on many days and nights during the autumn and winter of each year. We have gathered information to support our report, campaigns and petitions from our social media, surveys, polls, statements sent in by the public and Freedom of Information Requests sent to UK Police Forces.

Against this background, four findings have drawn our attention.

1. Firework use cannot be classed as a personal freedom. There is nothing personal about fireworks. They can be felt and heard over great distances and negatively affect many people and animals.
2. Although police and local authority complaints seem low, it must be understood that the police and LA will not react to complaints about **legal** firework use, i.e. 365 days a year. The complaint is unlikely to be logged. Hence the low numbers.
3. Online shopping has changed how readily available fireworks have become. Contrary to Parliament's statements, restricting sales and licensing of year-round outlets has no effect at all on availability, anyone can buy anything, anytime. This includes fireworks.
4. Fireworks can have a direct negative affect on the more vulnerable within society, be it those with a physical condition or a mental health issue. Fireworks can make their lives worse.

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM? The problem is firework use, in back garden situations, by the general public. Responsible use rarely extends to informing neighbours even if all the houses in the area affected could practically be informed.

WHY IT IS A PROBLEM? RANDOM, UNEXPECTED fireworks cannot be prepared for. People with certain medical conditions, and pet owners would be able to prepare themselves and their animals if they knew when to expect fireworks. The 'creeping firework season' makes this impossible. Sometimes the public use fireworks that are too powerful for the size of their gardens, this is not policed in any way.

WHEN IS THIS A PROBLEM? Fireworks are not, as some people believe, merely a problem that can be managed as it occurs around 5th November and New Year's Eve. Increasingly fireworks are being used to celebrate other occasions such as birthdays, weddings, and even in some cases funerals. The latest fashion is to send a person's ashes up in several rockets, any other 'event' or even "just because". This is currently legal in the UK where the law allows firework use 365 days a year from 7am up to 11pm with some extensions for recognised traditional dates.

Full report following

I started FAB firework abatement campaign having heard of two incidents in which friends' horses were put to sleep due to injuries sustained during unexpected fireworks. The wording of my first petition, lessened its impact. It was written predominantly about animals as my whole network on social media was animal based. However, over the last 4yrs, I have heard many stories of how firework use affects not only animals, **but more importantly people**, who to date, have yet to be heard.

Although this campaign runs on social media only, with no national newspaper or TV coverage, an estimated 400,000 individual people have signed the petitions. Had these e-petitions been able to run alongside a paper petition the number of people reached would have been much higher, only 1 in 3 people are involved with social media. I believe this shows the strength of feeling amongst the general public.

The campaign has never been about banning the use of fireworks, but about adopting a commonsense approach, between those people who enjoy fireworks and those whose lives are severely affected by unexpected fireworks. Firework availability in the UK is now driven by advertising and all-year-round internet sales and high street stores dedicated to the sales of fireworks. The current firework regulations are no longer effective for the control of firework use.

As long ago as **2004** the government spoke about "*curtailing the creeping expansion of the season*". In the past 15 years I believe it has crept far enough,¹ indeed it has moved to such a degree that it now encompasses October to January.

In the same document in 2004 the government said,

*"The Government has recently introduced a number of measures to regulate the supply, possession and use of fireworks under the Consumer Protection Act 1987 and the Fireworks Act 2003. The introduction of any further measures at this time would be premature given the recent changes to the Regulations. **We will, however, keep the effectiveness of the new measures under constant review.**"*

Firework Regulations have not been looked at for 15 years.

I believe it is now time to review. ¹<http://bit.ly/1SbtEQE>

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1. INTRODUCTION

Fireworks now occur at all times of the day and evening for many weeks during the autumn and winter. Vulnerable people are caused distress and pet owners struggle to keep their companion animals safe during this extended period.

The need for reform of the Firework Regulations (2004) has been recognised by many organizations and charities. Current regulations are outdated and largely ineffective and we are calling for the improved regulation of firework use in the UK.

1.1. The Aims The overall aim of this campaign is to reduce the incidence of random and unexpected back garden fireworks by enhancing the current regulation for firework use by the general public. Bring in new regulations on use in order to allow individuals who gain great pleasure from fireworks to continue to do so. As well as, importantly, to allow people who have certain medical conditions and those who suffer fear and stress from firework noise to take precautions to protect themselves. Pet owners and those who are responsible for livestock will also benefit from less time that fireworks are permitted.

1.2. Process We have been collecting data from several sources to illustrate the issues. These include reported incidences of fireworks, surveys of the general public, (on Facebook, outside the FAB group), freedom of information requests to UK police forces and statements from the general public, these will demonstrate why this is such an important issue.

1.3. Significance 3 petitions debated, 4 achieved well over 100k, many other government petitions started.

Firework use cannot be classed as a personal freedom, for people to use whenever they feel like it. It causes huge distress to many people. Most of these people have had no voice and possibly felt alone in their distress, until now. Their only recourse to write to their council or MP and one letter was certainly not going to provoke change. A firework party affects people over a large area, (how large cannot be tested easily as buildings and open space would change the readings every time.) Imagine though, an explosion of 120db on a housing estate built in the 60s. Houses close together, blocks of flats and

very small gardens. This would certainly rattle the windows. Do we think it is fair for people to be invaded by sound in their own homes to such an extent? There is nothing personal about fireworks. They can be felt and heard over great distances and negatively affect many people and animals.

In the name of having a good time, how much of a thoroughly bad time are we willing to force on other people?

1.4. Reach As is being seen with the 'Revoke article 50' petition, not everyone who agrees with a petition signs it for whatever reason, not everyone is computer literate, has access or knowledge even of the petition. So it is with the firework petitions, even so the strength of feeling can be shown by the numbers. Over the three debated petitions, more than 750,000 people signed.

Contrary to popular belief, it is not only pet owners who are affected by the random use of fireworks. Our findings are that people with the following conditions, mental health issues, epilepsy, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and a great many people on the autism spectrum are impacted by unexpected fireworks. We have also been contacted by veterans, parents of young children, shift workers and carers of elderly relatives who have all expressed support for change.

Sudden and unexpected loud noises cause unwelcome symptoms for people with certain medical conditions. We have researched these effects and found that most people are able to manage the symptoms/conditions if given enough time to plan, for instance, adjust medication, plan an evening away or put on their headphones and settle down for a night of box sets. ([Appendix A](#))

"I suffer with tinnitus and loud noises actually hurt my ears."

"My husband is hearing impaired and wears two digital aids but he can't for the majority of the autumn and winter. He either has to grab them out of his ears when fireworks start unexpectedly or he doesn't wear them. This causes huge communication problems."

"I have complex PTSD and autism. For many reasons fireworks are distressing to me, Autism means that I find loud noises distressing, especially when there is no escape from them. Complex PTSD means that I startle easily to loud noises especially when they come out of the blue and are unexpected."

1.5. Firework Related Incidents

A simple search found close to 400 firework incidents reported in the press during the period 1 January 2017 up to and including 4 March 2019. Of these stories, 159 of them were about people being hurt or frightened by fireworks and 23 of the stories were about animals. Many of the stories relate to incidents within the legal hours of 7am to 11pm (with extensions on traditional days). ([Appendix C](#))

Here are just 6 of them.

Firework Related Incidents

SOURCE DATE COMMENT WEBLINK
Stoke On Trent Live
12/07/18 Police launch investigation after lit firework
thrown into Stoke-on-Trent house

https://www.stokesentinel.co.uk/news/stoke-on-trent-news/police-launch-investigation-after-lit-1778891?fbclid=IwAR2Q9f696KNealYW3i_Q4jINxa_xJ-t4JQsT_POS2jXUzrmATWxLS_OJuGN0 BBC News 02/10/18 A worker who suffered severe burns in an

explosion at a fireworks factory has died, police have confirmed

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cambridgeshire-45731897?fbclid=IwAR0eYCAIWUXZobqA1WJblonnmKHtOlqmAT-7_RZ3hwnNeh2KRk0Xu68pwxE Yorkshire Evening Post

04/10/18 Police in Bradford came under fire as members of the public threw missiles and fireworks at officers during an arrest

<https://www.yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk/news/police-came-under-attack-as-yobs-threw-fireworks->

and-missiles-at-officers-during-leeds-man-s-arrest- 1-9386627?fbclid=IwAR30I0a7yn7iltTJ8LQHFdafgwN
GGiMIDOSwa15ZsjCYcBw7TdZ2EeadAC0 BBC News 30/10/18 Fireworks thrown at blind woman and dog in

Leeds

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leeds-46043744?fbclid=IwAR2AgrDGY_tXzUnz2tQFS3cN

OE15m6foJ8eKk7ZPAqHH7ncfeZUIkuO58_Q ITV News 05/11/18 Police are appealing for information after reports that strangers put a lit firework in a homeless man's pocket in Liverpool

<https://www.itv.com/news/granada/2018-11-06/police-appeal-after-shocking-attack-where-lit>

firework-was-put-in-homeless-veterans-pocket/ Daily Record 06/11/18 Glasgow schoolboy in coma after firework explodes in his face and blows off two fingers

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/glasgow-schoolboy-coma-after-firework-13558724>

2. WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

The problem is firework use, by the general public in a back-garden situation. This can be because they are used in a random unexpected fashion or because the fireworks used are too big for the garden size. Responsible use does not extend to neighbours informing others and in fact it would be almost impossible to get to every neighbour who may or may not be affected, who may or may not hear or feel the fireworks. All these factors would depend on the weather conditions on the day and of course the type of fireworks used.

"We have an Autistic son who gets very distressed when there are unexpected fireworks."

"In January, he was sleeping in our kitchen, as the guests left the party next door, they let off fireworks. Harvey (dog) took a massive fit and stopped breathing, the emergency vet revived him, but he never fully came out of the fit. He was put to sleep as he was brain dead. He was three years old"

Firework use has grown exponentially since the millennium.

EPIC FIREWORKS - RETAIL ONLINE SALES BUSINESS - "We have created the EPIC division of our wholesale business in response to a rapidly expanding customer base looking for premium fireworks at the lowest possible prices. EPIC will grow and develop in line with the demands of this sector."

Fireworks cause a variety of problems for people for a range of reasons. For example, people who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder as a result of events that occurred during time spent on active duty in the armed forces can suffer terrible reactions to fireworks. The same is true for people who have had other traumatic encounters such as road traffic accidents, abuse, or rape. Furthermore, people with medical conditions such as ADHD- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, or mental health conditions are often unable to cope with the noise and light generated by fireworks.

Alongside this many people who keep pets, or other livestock are unable to adequately prepare for the reactions that random fireworks trigger in their animals. Whilst many pet and animal owners do not wish to see a total ban on the use of fireworks (and indeed may even enjoy visiting organized displays) it is unacceptable when the level of random fireworks rises to the point that they feel unable to leave their livestock unattended because of the potential for fireworks, and the harm that this may cause to the animals.

This may, to some, sound like conjecture and hearsay, and we are well aware that some people think we are no more than party poopers who wish to stop them using fireworks and restrict their personal freedom. However, this is not the case and we have a substantial amount of data to back this up as the paragraphs below illustrate. On the point of personal freedom, surely that goes both ways, we should have the freedom to enjoy our own homes in peace?

RANDOM, UNEXPECTED fireworks cannot be prepared for. People with certain medical conditions ([Appendix A](#)) and pet owners would be able to prepare themselves and their animals if they knew when to expect fireworks. The 'creeping firework season' makes this impossible.

"There are several different triggers for Trigeminal Neuralgia attacks one of which is sudden loud noises and explosions. Knowing when there are going to be loud noises and explosions (the resonance of the explosion can add to the problem of triggers) is helpful, I can take additional medication in preparation and can keep somewhere safer to avoid the loud noise."

"I had to stay on strong steroid medication and oxygen and nebulizers right Through September to the end of January! this is all down to the stress of constant and unexpected fireworks and the pollution in the air."

When a person has a negative reaction to sudden loud noises (fireworks) the precautions they need to take must be BEFORE the first firework is heard. For instance, in their own homes they should not be expected to walk around with headphones on the loudest setting for the duration of the autumn and winter or their hearing aid removed, just in case.

"For me, it brings back the awful memories of back during the second world war, when my family had to hide underneath the table when the planes were going overhead."

"Myself and my family were at the Shoreham Air show and witnessed the terrible crash of the Hawker Hunter. I have suffered panic attacks and flash backs, I jump at loud and unexpected noise, I guess I have a form of PTSD. I can cope with planned displays."

If an animal needs to be sedated this cannot be done as the first firework goes off. It is too late by then. Sedation or any of the other advised precautions need to be in advance. Obviously, an animal cannot be sedated every night of the 'firework season' just in case.

"Now, I am not a party pooper, I don't expect the world to dance to my tune by I do think compromise has a lot going for it... We know we can expect fireworks on certain nights of the year and that is great for those who enjoy them, and we can prepare. It is the element of surprise (or maybe not so these days) of the days in between. The randomness of the onslaught is both stressful and inconvenient for all concerned. It affects social interaction in that none of us feel able to leave the house of an evening during this extended period for fear of what we might meet when we return. chewed kitchen door. Faeces, urine and vomit, all fear induced reactions from a perfectly normally and well-behaved dog the rest of the year."

"My other horse was injured trying to escape the field due to prolonged fireworks (they are kept at home on 10 acres, but still far too close to neighbouring properties for the firework noise level that is deemed acceptable by law."

Many pet owners change their lifestyle during the winter months to accommodate 'possible' fireworks. They don't feel they can risk leaving their animals in case fireworks start unexpectedly. This is borne out by the results of a survey by The Dogs Trust.

"The charity believe it is a significant issue affecting dog owners and hopes the outcome of the debate will reflect this – a recent Dogs Trust survey of 3,750 pet owners showed that two-thirds of dogs are worried by fireworks and that 93% of their owners alter their routine at the time of firework celebrations to try to minimise the trauma on their pets."

Present UK law means that your neighbour is fully entitled to use fireworks whenever they want, 365 days a year up to 11pm with extensions on traditional days. Although the suggestion is that, responsible use is the norm, and other people should be informed, this very rarely happens as shown in this survey question. In our survey, 768 answered the question.

"Do your neighbours or other local people inform you when they are planning fireworks,"

Out of 768 responding to that question, 737 said their neighbours do not inform them when they are planning fireworks.

3 WHY IS IT A PROBLEM?

The problem is firework use, by the general public in a back-garden situation. This can be because they are used in a random unexpected fashion or because the fireworks used are too big for the garden size. Responsible use does not extend to neighbours informing others and in fact it would be almost impossible to get to every neighbour who may or may not be affected, who may or may not hear or feel the fireworks. All these factors would depend on the weather conditions on the day and of course the type of fireworks used.

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4 HOW CAN THE PROBLEM BE SOLVED?

Review the Regulations. As we have demonstrated in this report, firework use is a problem for people and for animals. We must question whether it is acceptable that this has reached the level where people do not feel safe or comfortable in their own homes, where they cannot benefit from the peaceful enjoyment they would like and where the negative impacts on them and their loved ones can be catastrophic.

5 FIRST THOUGHTS ON POLLUTION

Most toxic household items can be handled with control (a reason why they should not be handled by children). For example, bleach (containing the toxic sodium hypochlorite and ammonium perchlorate) is extremely dangerous but can be confined and controlled owing to its liquid state. However, there are toxic materials that are in the colloidal 'solid-in- gas' state such as cigarette smoke (tar and other harmful solid particles which travel via the deadly gas carbon monoxide). Unfortunately, this form of toxic substance (particulate matter) cannot be controlled, hence the ban of indoor smoking, for the effect it has people.

In order to apply the same principle, it must be acknowledged that the toxic chemicals such as ammonium

perchlorate in fireworks are much more easily distributed into the environment and in much higher concentrations due to this solid- in-gas state. There are formulations that act as alternatives to bleach which do not contain the same toxic ions in an attempt to reduce the levels of toxic waste. Still, they are the necessary ingredients in fireworks – so why, without an alternative, is there no equal control for firework usage? Perchlorate ions make their way into bodies of water, of which the concentrations, if use is continued, will have severely detrimental health and environmental effects. In a 2005 study in Journal of Environmental Science and Technology, perchlorate ions were found in 32% of organically produced samples agricultural products.

Similarly, the launch of a rocket releases similar toxic gases (ammonium perchlorate is also used here as a solid rocket propellant due to its oxidising ability) including harmful particulate matter, but again, there is control and consideration applied here, unlike the lack of control around fireworks usage or sale.

Perchlorate ions alone are not particularly toxic, but when in the body or in water, form their respective acid which obviously is not good.

AND FINALLY

P.S. As a thought..... Wouldn't this be better? Future professional displays set to music without the bangs and whistles.

"So my customer today said to me, we were on holiday in Disneyland Paris a few weeks ago and we thought of you'. 'Did you?' I asked wondering where the conversation was going, and which character reminded them of me! 'Yes' she said, 'on our last day they put on a huge firework display, it lasted for ages, most spectacular one we've ever seen and the kids said they enjoyed it more than any other display they had ever seen! When we asked them why that was they replied it was because there were no bangs - just music'."

A town in Italy have started using quieter fireworks as a way of respecting their animals. "During firework displays animals are often confused as to where the loud noises are coming from which makes them run frantically away. Unfortunately, this sometimes results in them being hit by a car." (Appendix J)

Anyone get the feeling the UK is a bit behind everyone else???"

APPENDIX A: MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Fireworks are bad for our health

Fireworks have a significant impact on health – across a wide variety of conditions, including both mental and physical health. There is the sound and sight impact on a broad spectrum of conditions, as well as the intrinsic metallic components of fireworks and particles produced, which affect the quality of the air around us and respiratory health.

Regarding sound, audiologists confirm that fireworks can lead to hearing loss, tinnitus and hyperacusis (see below). Research in the UK has also shown an increase in ocular problems and hospital visits due to fireworks. In the reference to these increased eye visits over the traditional fireworks period, the burden on the NHS is mentioned as a concern.

Regarding metal particles that are part of fireworks and affect respiratory health, research has looked at the amount of particulate matter (PM) produced in fireworks events and the subsequent impact on human health. These have shown an

increase in hospital visits, of respiratory problems such as asthma, COPD and more and an increased risk of cancer.

The difficult situation in the UK today, is that it is not as easy to simply not attend an event and therefore be safe from harm. Fireworks are let off throughout the year, with no warning of when or where. Therefore, not attending an event neither protects an individual from hearing damage or pain, with them going off over your own home, nor from respiratory issues – as the toxins linger in the air for many days after and fireworks can go on for weeks. Nor does it protect someone for whom fireworks cause anxiety, distress or worsen existing conditions such as PTSD and dementia. Based on the evidence below, the human impact alone is enough to be convincing of the need to limit or cease fireworks.

Physical Health - Sound and sight

Hyperacusis

There is a health condition called hyperacusis, which makes people very sensitive and suffer pain from sounds. It affects between **7% and 23% of adults and 12%-27% of children.**

(<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/hyperacusis/Pages/Introduction.aspx>) The condition can vary quite a lot. For example, some people find loud noises extremely uncomfortable, some find certain noises particularly annoying, some develop a fear of certain noises, while others experience pain when hearing ordinary sounds.

It's one thing to not be able to go to shops due to this sound, but not having peace in your own home throughout the year and to not know when a firework can go off is another. Bryan Pollard of Hyperacusis Research stated, "Hyperacusis is a life altering condition where even common everyday sounds cause significant pain. Fireworks, which can be at levels of 150 to 175dB, can completely destroy a hyperacusis sufferer's life. New noises this loud can cause a person's condition to greatly deteriorate even with ear protection inside a home. This level of sound approaches what should be considered assault by sound. Hyperacusis sufferers need to be protected from these dangerous noises. Reference:

<https://www.boystownhospital.org/knowledgeCenter/articles/hearing/Pages/Fireworks.aspx> “

Hearing - 11,000,000 affected in 2015 and rising

<https://www.actiononhearingloss.org.uk/community/blogs/our-guest-blog/top-tips-to-protect-your-hearing-on-bonfire-night.aspx> David Stockdale, Chief Executive of the *British Tinnitus Association* says: "Many people are unaware that a single bang from a nearby firework can permanently damage hearing and lead to tinnitus. Prolonged exposure to noise at 85 decibels (dB) is enough to risk irreversible hearing damage and some fireworks can be capable of producing over 150dB."

Misophonia

<http://www.misophonia-uk.org/faqs.html> Misophonia literally means "extreme dislike" or "hatred" (miso-) of "sound" (-phonia). The term was coined by the US scientists Pawel and Margaret Jastreboff in 2001. The vast majority of people joining self-help groups who have an extreme reaction to everyday sounds report an intriguingly similar set of symptoms. These may vary from one person to another but generally speaking:

* the age of onset is often around 10-12yrs old. * the reaction is experienced most commonly as extreme rage * the trigger sound can create an overwhelming fight or flight response in the sufferer, so they experience a desire to do extreme violence to the maker of the sound, or to escape the vicinity of the sound at all costs.

Phonophobia

<http://www.allaboutcounseling.com/forum/> Phonophobia is the fear of loud noises and sounds, which can cause anxiety attacks or be a result of severe migraine headaches. A phonophobic person placed in the above situation may suffer from an [anxiety attack](#) or nausea and be forced to flee from the situation immediately.

British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit

A study on serious ocular injuries from fireworks in the UK concludes that such damage and pressure on hospitals puts an added burden on the NHS:

<https://www.nature.com/articles/670277>

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"New cases of serious ocular injuries from fireworks were prospectively ascertained through the monthly active surveillance system of the British Ophthalmological Surveillance Unit (BOSU). All ophthalmologists in the UK received a reporting card each month for a 2-year period commencing July 2004. They were asked to indicate any new cases of serious ocular injury from a firework, or to confirm that they had no new cases to report. Information on demographic detail, type of injury, management, and visual outcome was sought through an incident and 6-month follow-up questionnaire.

"Results Eighty-one per cent of the injuries occurred in October and November and 27% (13/47) of the patients were less than 18 years old. Twenty-six per cent (12/47) of patients had a penetrating injury, and ocular surgery was required in 53% (25/47) of cases. Eight patients (17%) required enucleation or evisceration and four (9%) required a cosmetic shell for phthisis. At 6-month follow-up, 53% (21/40) of cases had a visual acuity of 6/60 or worse.

"Conclusion This national survey confirms that firework injuries are an important cause of preventable visual disability particularly to young males. It is likely that such injuries occur year on year and as such represent an important public health concern in addition to the burden placed upon the health service."

It should be noted that the reports from the ophthalmologists cover July 2004-July 2006 , AFTER the 2003 Firework Act and the 2004 Firework regulations of July 2004.

Physical health - Respiration

A large amount of research has been done that looks at the metals which are part of fireworks and their impact when let off on the environment and respiratory health. This includes for example lung and heart diseases - namely asthma and COPD and increases hospital visits as well as deaths. There is also research that suggests that the carcinogens produced have an impact on the number of people suffering from cancer. Examples of the research and some excerpts from them are listed below. The research is very significant and calls for serious consideration for the benefit of people's health, as well as for the impact this has on our health services. They reference PM which means particulate matter:

Potential impact of fireworks on respiratory health. Caroline Gouder and Stephen Montefort: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4220320/>

"A number of health warnings have been issued on the worldwide web for susceptible individuals to avoid firework displays and avoid the inhalation of resultant fumes and airborne PM. A good number of papers have reported associations between airborne particles and a range of respiratory outcomes from symptoms to mortality, while others have reported associations with pulmonary function deficits, emergency room visits, hospital admissions, and daily deaths. Despite PM components having widely different physicochemical properties, they may induce similar cellular responses with a range of sensitivities to pollutants across different "at risk" groups, particularly patients suffering from lung and heart diseases, namely asthma and COPD in the former group. The individuals' sensitivity to pollution is said to be related to their pulmonary antioxidant defences. Effects of fine particles on human health depend on the size, shape, number, and mass concentration together with chemical composition and may implicate that their detrimental effects on human health can affect more individuals for a prolonged period of time.

"The impact of fireworks on human health has been reported in the literature and has been attributed to the large amount of chemical components that have been used during the manufacture of these fireworks. In 1975, Bach *et al.* reported a 113% statistically significant increase in treated respiratory illness during a fireworks event but a non-significant 8% decline in pulmonary function. According to the Swiss study on air pollution and lung diseases in adults, increments in NO₂, ozone (O₃), and TSPs were associated with decrements in forced expiratory volume in 1 second (FEV₁) and increments in NO₂ and TSPs were associated with decrements in FVC. Six panel studies performed on patients suffering from chronic pulmonary diseases identified a decrease of peak expiratory flow and an increase in daily symptom and medication use in association with elevated daily particle concentrations. No studies were identified on the effect of firework emission exposure and the effect on lung function. Joly *et al.* in their study reported on the emissions of fireworks, which was carried out at the level of where people usually stand and conducted during nine separate firework shows at an amusement park. They concluded that the particles emitted include extremely high levels of PM_{2.5} and are much more likely to enter the respiratory system. Hirai *et al.* (2000) also found that the inhalation of smoke from fireworks causes cough, fever, and dyspnoea and lead to some cases of acute eosinophilic pneumonia.

"Children seem to be particularly susceptible to the harmful effects of ambient air pollution. Compared with adults, children have poor defences against PM and gaseous air pollutants, have a differential ability to metabolize and detoxify environmental agents, and have an airway epithelium that is more permeable to inhaled air pollutants. Also, children have a greater level of physical activity than adults; hence, their intake of air into the lungs is much greater than that of adults per day..."

Characterization of PM₁₀ and Impact on Human Health During the Annual Festival of Lights (Diwali)

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6285675/>

As Diwali continues for multiple days, research done on Diwali is particularly relevant for the UK, although in the UK the period is even longer as we have Diwali and Fireworks around a similar time, extending the days fireworks go off to about 2-3 weeks onwards. This research completed in 2015 highlights an increase in environmental pollution and in hospital visits during Diwali.

"In the present study, concentrations of metals and ions in PM₁₀ were measured for a period of ten days in 2015, coinciding with the Diwali fireworks festival in northeast India. The results indicated that while the concentration of metals increased by 51%, ions increased by 74%. PM₁₀ showed a shift from anion to cation deficiency during fireworks burning. Additionally, ambient noise levels measured during Diwali were 101 dB, 40 dB higher than levels on non-Diwali days. Furthermore, the mean concentrations of bacteria during Diwali days showed a 61% reduction compared to non-Diwali days."

The research concludes, "The present study suggests that reducing fireworks during Diwali could reduce pollutant concentrations and result in potential health benefits."

Hazardous Metals in Ambient Air Due to New Year Fireworks During 2004–2011 Celebrations in Pearl City, Hawaii

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3366381/>

"Although rapid dissipation rates reduce exposure, the potential health effects due to short-term exposure to high ambient levels of HAP and other metals cannot be ignored. Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Hawaii and reducing exposure to known carcinogens such as HAP metals should be a priority. The longer-term environmental impact of these pollutant metals and other fireworks fallout, which can contaminate water supplies, beaches, surface waters, soils, and agricultural products, should also be investigated."

Asthma 1 in 11 5.4million in the UK <http://www.safebee.com/health/hidden-danger-fireworks> Firework displays increase air pollution levels in the form of particulate matter small enough to seep into the lungs of folks with asthma and COPD. ... that can seep into the lungs and cause coughing, wheezing and shortness of breath.

Breathing / lung /COPD - 300,000 in the UK

http://www.network-health.org/uploadedFiles/Healthwise_IX_mailers/zu1516.pdf Fireworks smoke contains toxic dust that can irritate your lungs and can cause breathing problems. If you have a health problem that affects your breathing, air pollution such as smoke can make your breathing suddenly get worse. A severe COPD flare-up or asthma attack can be a life-threatening emergency.

Physical Health – other conditions

Fibromyalgia - thought to affect 1 in 20 in the UK <http://fibromyalgia-facts-fictions.com/sensitivities.html> Almost to a person, nearly every sufferer of FM reports sensitivity to noise. And not just loud noises (although those seem to be the worst) it is also sudden noises (like how the commercials on TV suddenly jump up the volume) or certain kinds of sounds, ticking, droning or other repetitive noises. But no matter what the source of the sound, nearly all FMers report intolerance to it. Often to the point of literally, pain.

Anxiety induced incontinence [FM/CFS/ME RESOURCES - FM Symptoms](#) The severity of symptoms can change depending on stress levels, your This disorder causes muscle pain in the face, neck, shoulders, and back, and Bladder incontinence, urinary frequency, and painful sexual intercourse are ... Even external stressors, such as loud noises or bright lights, can trigger FM symptoms.

Gastroesophageal Reflux http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/588970_4 Various studies evaluated the effect of stress on the gastrointestinal tract. More recent studies have focused on the relationship between stress and reported symptoms of GORD.^[22] There are a variety of stressors that have been used in these studies, including white noise, exposure to cold temperature, loud noises and anticipation of stressful situations such as giving a speech.

Epilepsy <http://www.healthtalk.org/peoples-experiences/nerves-brain/epilepsy/triggering-factors> Photosensitivity (sensitivity to flickering light) affects fewer than 5% of people with ... Certain types of sound and music triggered seizures in some people.

ME and CFS - 250,000 in the UK

<http://www.ei-resource.org/illness-information/environmental-illnesses/chronic-fatigue-syndrome-cfs-myalgic-encephalopathy-me/> Heightened Sensitivity to Light and/or Sound - Normal everyday levels of sound and light can seem overwhelming to a ME/CFS sufferer.

Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syncope

<http://www.dinet.org/index.php/information-resources/pots-place/pots-what-to-avoid> Information and resources on dysautonomia and POTS related issues. ... A number of POTS patients report being overly sensitive to bright lights, loud

noises and postural faint and neuropathic postural tachycardia syndrome (POTS).

Ankylosing Spondylitis - 120,000 sufferers in the UK <http://sjogrensworld.org/forums/index.php?topic=16521.0> Many of my senses are overly sensitive. Sound, light, smell...all get overloaded very easily. For me it started about 15 years ago with light. I had to install dimmer switches on all my lights, and I often wear sunglasses in the house

Mental Health

PTSD - 1 in 3 who have traumatic experience likely to have this.

<http://www.ptsduk.org/remember-remember-those-with-ptsd/> We've mentioned before that people with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) can often develop difficulties with sounds such as an exaggerated startle response, fear of sound (phonophobia), aversion to specific sounds (misophonia), and a difficulty in tolerance and volume of sounds that would not be considered loud by normal hearing individuals (hyperacusis). These issues with sound are why many PTSD sufferers find this time of year a real problem. The root cause: fireworks.

PTSD UK were asked to comment on their view on fireworks. "PTSD UK supports the call for further restrictions to be placed upon fireworks - whether this be reduced noise fireworks, increased age limits for purchase, exclusion zones in residential areas or more stringent time restrictions. PTSD is a serious and life-affecting condition which can be exacerbated by the unexpected nature of fireworks when they're not used responsibly and with respect for others, and whilst we don't wish for all fireworks to be banned, we feel there needs to be more restrictions placed around the sale and usage of them."

PTSD affects about 4% of the UK civilian population alone.

Complex PTSD <http://www.healingfromcomplextraumaandptsd.com/#!ptsd--noise-sensitivity-/cequ> Noise can affect those with PTSD/Complex PTSD in different ways....The PTSD Startle Reflex - which is about anxiety and loud noises and bangs etc. will cause the survivor to jump and startle easily.

Combat PTSD

<http://www.healthypace.com/blogs/understandingcombatptsd/2014/11/17/combat-ptsd-symptom-exaggerated-startle-response/> However, when a startle stimulus reminds the person with combat PTSD of his or her trauma, the response will likely be heightened. So, while a car backfiring can startle anyone, a person with PTSD may have a startle response that causes them to "hit the deck" because it reminds him or her of enemy fire.

Autism - 1 in 100 in the UK <http://www.autism.org.uk/about/family-life/holidays-trips/bonfire-night.aspx> Bonfire night is a family occasion that brings joy to people across the UK - but for the 1 in 100 people with autism, fireworks can be anything but fun

National Autistic Society comments, "Many parents of children on the autism spectrum tell us they choose not to celebrate bonfire night because their children find it too distressing. The unexpected nature of displays can cause anxiety and stress, and for those with **sensory** issues, fireworks can be very disturbing."

Aspergers Syndrome <http://www.kennethrobersonphd.com/sound-sensitivity-children-aspergers-syndrome/> There are three types of noises that children with Aspergers experience as extremely unpleasant. One of them is sudden, unexpected noises, such as a telephone ringing, a fire alarm, thunder or fireworks.

OCD <https://myocddiary.com/2010/01/04/ocd-sound-sensitivity/> Being easily irritated to certain sounds is called: Soft Sound Sensitivity and for whatever reason, a lot of people with OCD seem to have it.

Stress/Anxiety <http://www.calmclinic.com/anxiety/symptoms/hypersensitivity-to-sound> Noise Triggers Some people develop a sensitivity to very specific sounds. ... Stress Related Tension Finally, when you're feeling anxious, it can cause pressure, in some cases, this may even make the noises sound louder than before.

Alzheimers and Dementia <http://forum.alzheimers.org.uk/showthread.php?48329-Sensitivity-to-loud-noise> For some time now she has had a sensitivity to loud noise. It appears to give her a reaction similar to being very frightened. If something is loud enough it will make her cry.

Toxins <http://www.holistichelp.net/blog/are-fireworks-bad-for-your-health/> Fireworks contain a variety of chemicals that are harmful to not only the environment, but the human body as well? The negative effects on health go way beyond a temporary inflammation of lungs in vulnerable people. ... They have also been found to cause cancer in mice and rats. ... bi-polar, depression, anxiety, heart disease, kidney disease, MS rheumatoid arthritis, gastrointestinal disorders, chronic fatigue and more. They disrupt the endocrine system, immune system, gastrointestinal system, metabolism, and [neurotransmitters in the brain](#).

Summary

As has been shown, the number of health conditions that can be severely impacted by fireworks is no insignificant number. The problem, even for responsible firework users, is that it would be impossible to know which of their far neighbours may have a health issue that would be exacerbated by unexpected fireworks.

APPENDIX B: FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Results from Enquiries to Police Forces Nationwide.

Freedom of Information requests were submitted to police forces nationwide. Initially the requests were sent to selection of a dozen police forces, before being sent to all forces nationwide.

The initial request asked for the following information:

-

Data covering the incidents involving fireworks that have happened between 2010 and 2015: -

The number of incident numbers that have been issued regarding fireworks being let off after the cut off time and the dates of these reports. The number of incidents the police have been called out to involving fireworks. The number of on the spot fines issued. The number of prosecutions under the Firework Act 2004 and the number of no further actions. How many reported incidents and fines were for under 18's. The number of firework related road traffic accidents attended by police.

However, due to the results from this request proving to be too large for the majority of the police forces contacted to process, the request was redefined to simply ask for the number of firework related complaints received between the 1st of January 2012 to the 31st December 2015.

Conclusion

The incident searches conducted by the different police forces across the country produced a total of 35,148 firework related incidents in total. Of those 11,993 gave dates and or times of the reported incidents. Analysis shows the following: -

29% of the reports occurred on the dates that fireworks would be expected to go off i.e. Chinese New Year, Diwali, 4th to 6th of November and New Year's Eve. Interestingly, Chinese New Year received hardly any reports in any year. 71% of the reports occurred throughout the year outside of the dates that fireworks are expected.

50.1% of the reports occurred within the dates that fireworks are on general sale to the public. 41.8% of the reports happened throughout the rest of the year outside of the dates that fireworks are on general sale to the public.

APPENDIX C: NEWS REPORTS OF FIREWORK RELATED INCIDENTS

A simple search brings up 383 incidents during the period 1 January 2017 up to and including 4 March 2019

2017 SOURCE DATE COMMENT WEBLINK Gazette News 26/01/17 Clacton and Holland-on-Sea homeowners quoted thousands of pounds to fix damage from used fireworks

http://www.gazette-news.co.uk/news/15049654.Homeowners_shell_out_thousands_of_pounds_to_fix_damage_from_used_fireworks/ Eastbourne Herald

01/02/17 Thieves escaped with £17,000-worth of fireworks from an Eastbourne warehouse burglary

<http://www.eastbourneherald.co.uk/news/burglars-steal-17-000-worth-of-fireworks-from-eastbourne-warehouse-1-7802104> BBC 07/04/17 A Wrexham street has reopened after police carrying out a

search warrant found suspected firearms and "unstable" firework

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-north-east-wales-39528063>

Daily Express 05/06/17 Panic in east London after 'really inappropriate' fireworks display

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/813004/london-bridge-terror-attack-borough-market-fireworks> Cambridge News

30/06/17 One of Cambridge's cows has died of internal injuries after it got "spooked" by fireworks and charged through a fence in the city centre.

<http://www.cambridge-news.co.uk/news/cambridge-news/cow-dies-cambridges-coe-fen-13264617?rm52> Independent 28/07/17 Molotov cocktails, fireworks and bottles were hurled at

police officers in Dalston, east London,

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/rashan-charles-protest-latest-fireworks-riot-metropolitan-police-dalston-hackney-chase-fire-a7866066.html> Daily Mirror 01/08/17 Liverpool hooded thug with firework <http://www.mirror.co.uk/.../hooded-thug-captured-cctv..>

Express 01/08/17 London 'riot': Police in Lambeth pelted with fireworks as they respond to 999 call <https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/835421/police-riot-injured-fireworks-london-party-firearms-knives-helicopter-investigation>

Mirror 30/08/17 Panic-stricken workers run towards kitchen when the exit is blocked by the lit explosives in Kirkdale, Liverpool

<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/hooded-thug-captured-cctv-exploding-11079088> About Manchester

11/09/17 Police are appealing for information after a large firework was set off under a car in Salford

<http://aboutmanchester.co.uk/appeal-after-fireworks-let-off-under-two-cars-in-salford/> Manchester Evening News

12/09/17 An industrial strength firework was set off outside a cafe in Salford causing a loud bang which was heard as far away as Didsbury

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/salford-cafe-firework-explosion-pendleton-13606506> Manchester Evening News

22/09/17 Hoaxers lured firefighters into ambush and pelted them

with fireworks. Yobs then tried to block their escape by lining wheelie bins across a street

<http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/hoaxers-lured-firefighters-ambush-pelted-13662545> Mirror 22/09/17 Darren Carney has recounted the vile campaign of abuse the pair have suffered at the hands of youths, including a firework being thrown at him

<https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/devastated-husband-claims-powerless-police-11219219>

Telegraph & Argus

26/09/17 Pupils are undergoing daily searches by staff at Bradford's biggest school after two 12-year-olds needed hospital treatment when a firework exploded inside the building.

http://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/15556835.Pupil_searches_start_to_stop_menace_of_smuggled_in_fireworks_at_city_s_biggest_school/

SOURCE DATE COMMENT WEBLINK Gazette Live 28/09/17 Boy, 13, appears in court after purple firework was allegedly thrown into Chinese takeaway. Fireworks were allegedly also thrown towards police officers

<http://www.gazettelive.co.uk/news/tes-side-news/boy-13-appears-court-after-13689487>

Gazette Live 04/10/17 50 youths throwing fireworks <http://www.gazettelive.co.uk/news/tes-side-news/nights-stupidity-ts3-footballers-morrisons-13715363>

Daily Record 06/10/17 Two racist thugs have admitted throwing bricks and lit

fireworks at a disabled refugee.

<http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/you-black-b-racist-thugs-11300642> Newham Recorder

06/10/17 A Stratford man was hospitalised after a lit firework caused a blaze in his block of maisonettes

<http://www.newhamrecorder.co.uk/news/http-www-newhamrecorder-co-uk-news-hallway-fire-in-stratford-maisonettes-leaves-man-hospitalised-1-5226150-1-5226150> Belfast Telegraph

06/10/17 Paramilitary crime task force have discovered a large stash of counterfeit goods and fireworks

<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/stash-of-illegal-fireworks-found-at-business-premises-in-the-shankill-36203786.html> Lancashire Telegraph

11/10/17 Firework throwing yobs have been wreaking havoc ahead of Bonfire Night

http://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/15590216.Fireworks_yobs_strike/ ITV 13/10/17 Cumbria Police are urging young people to be responsible

with fireworks following a number of reports from residents in Wigton where fireworks have been set off in the streets

<http://www.itv.com/news/border/2017-10-13/police-urge-young-people-to-be-responsible-with-fireworks/>

Stratford Observer

15/10/17 Fireworks were thrown at passers-by and vehicles by youths in Studley

<https://stratfordobserver.co.uk/news/lit-fireworks-thrown-by-youths-at-passers-by/> International Business Times

15/10/17 A supermarket worker has been left burned after youths set off a firework at a branch of Tesco

<http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/youths-set-off-fireworks-yorkshire-tesco-1643235> Croydon Advertiser

15/10/17 A police officer was injured and fireworks thrown after crowds of "youths" who attended a party in Sutton and South Morden

<http://www.croydonadvertiser.co.uk/news/local-news/fireworks-thrown-riot-police-disperse-629522>

Telegraph & Argus

16/10/17 Footage has emerged of a residential street being blocked to traffic while a wedding party let off fireworks in the middle of the street

http://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/local/localbrad/15598904.VIDEO__Anger_as_street_taken_over_for_fireworks_party/ Manchester Evening News

17/10/17 A teenage girl ended up in hospital after being hit by a firework.

<http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/girl-hurt-hit-fireworks-ashton-13771731> Nottingham Post

17/10/17 Police are stepping up patrols after residents complained of feeling 'intimidated' by anti-social youths setting off fireworks

<http://www.nottinghampost.com/news/local-news/residents-feel-intimidated-youths-setting-638934> BBC 17/10/17 Police are appealing for information after a teenager threw

a firework into the back of a taxi in Dundee

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-41651019>

The Sun 17/10/17 A man can be seen clutching a rocket before it flies into the bus through an open door, with passengers screaming in fear

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/4707662/fireworks-shot-islington-bus-passengers-fear/>

Worcester News

18/10/17 Two teenagers were caught with almost a dozen fireworks in a city park

http://www.worcesternews.co.uk/news/15604970.Teens_caught_with_fire_works_in_city_park/ 2BRNews 18/10/17

Fireworks have been thrown at cars and passing members

of the public from the car park of Preston North End

<https://www.2br.co.uk/news/local-news/2406880/fireworks-thrown-at-vehicles/>

SOURCE DATE COMMENT WEBLINK Bishops Stortford Independent

18/10/17 A lit firework was posted through the letterbox of a house

in Bishop's Stortford and two cars were damaged by rockets in a spate of vandalism

<http://www.bishopstortfordindependent.co.uk/vandals-post-lit-firework-through-letterbox-in-bishop-stortford-1-5242147> Southport Visitor News

19/10/17 Merseyside Police is investigating claims that three

teenagers shot fireworks at swans in Southport's King's Garden

<https://www.southportvisiter.co.uk/news/southport-west-lancs/teens-throw-live-fireworks-swans-13783301> BCHS

19/10/17 Firework incident at school in Blackburn <http://bchs.co.uk/firework-incident-announcement-from-headteacher/>

The News Portsmouth

19/10/17 Southsea Common and major roads closed off by police after reports of a firework exploding in a bin

<http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/news/crime/watch-southsea-common-and-major-roads-closed-after-firework-explodes-in-bin-1-8205105> Manchester Evening News

20/10/17 A young thug who hurled fireworks at a man in a

wheelchair before turning on a policeman has been forced to hand deliver a letter apologising for his shocking behaviour.

<http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/ashton-firework-disabled-man-sorry-13787244> Nottingham Post

20/10/17 Gang with bandanas covering their faces threw fireworks in a street disturbance, say police

<https://www.nottinghampost.com/news/nottingham-news/investigation-after-masked-gang-threw-657347> Derby & Telegraph

20/10/17 Armed police rushed to a street in Derby after reports of a

gunshot – but it was just a firework

<http://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/news/armed-police-rush-reports-gunshot-658301> Mail Online 20/10/17 Girl, 15, was viciously assaulted by gang with weapons and

fireworks as crowd of 200 children watched

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5001832/Girl-15-viciously-assaulted-firework-gang.html> Fife Today 20/10/17

The famous dunes at West Sands have been damaged by

fire and fireworks

<http://www.fifetoday.co.uk/news/famous-dunes-suffer-irresponsible-fire-damage-1-4592448> North West Evening Mail

20/10/17 Woman injured after a firework was reportedly thrown

through an open window in Barrow

<http://www.nwemail.co.uk/news/barrow/Barrow-woman-injured-after-firework-reportedly-thrown-through-window-cfb6d4db-1b66-4451-8525-458a54adbe9c-ds> Belfast Telegraph

20/10/17 Woman's fury as daughter nearly blinded by firework at

bus station on way to school

<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/womans-fury-as-daughter-nearly-blinded-by-firework-at-bus-station-on-way-to-school-36243859.html> Lancashire Telegraph

21/10/17 A schoolboy suffered a 'significant injury' after a firework

blew up in his hand

http://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/blackburn/15611417.Schoolboy_suffers___39_significant___39_injury_after_firework_incident/ Evening Standard

22/10/17 'Idiotic' youths slammed for launching lit fireworks at police

officers in Ealing street

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/idiotic-youths-slammed-for-launching-lit-fireworks-at-police-officers-in-street-a3664721.html> BBC 23/10/17 A kitchen was totally destroyed after a young child set off a

firework in a house in Wrexham

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-north-east-wales-41718533>

Edinburgh News 23/10/17 Illegal fireworks worth more than £1,500, including three feet long rockets, have been found abandoned in a wheelie bin on a Midlothian industrial estate

<http://www.edinburghnews.scotsman.com/our-region/edinburgh/fireworks-worth-1-500-found-abandoned-in-wheelie-bin-1-4594071> Gursley Gazette 23/10/17 A home fireworks display in Dursley is believed to have

gone awry leaving a greenhouse severely damaged by fire

http://www.gazetteseries.co.uk/news/15613795.Fireworks_display_believed_to_be_responsible_for_Dursley_fire/

SOURCE DATE COMMENT WEBLINK Bristol Post 23/10/17 A group of teenagers terrified passers-by by reportedly shooting fireworks at cars and people in Bristol city centre

<http://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/group-teens-shoot-fireworks-terrified-669561> Stratford Observer

24/10/17 Fireworks were aimed at people walking in Alcester <https://stratfordobserver.co.uk/news/>

[fireworks-aimed-at-pedestrians-in-alcester/](https://stratfordobserver.co.uk/news/fireworks-aimed-at-pedestrians-in-alcester/) Shropshire Star 24/10/17 Police have warned someone could be maimed after 10

reports of fireworks being thrown into gardens in Shrewsbury over the past two days

<https://www.shropshirestar.com/news/local-hubs/shrewsbury/2017/10/24/police-warning-over-firework-throwing-in-shrewsbury/> BBC 25/10/17 Two engineers were attacked with fireworks launched from

a passing van as they tried to repair a fault on the electricity network.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-glasgow-west-41748747>

Ham & High News

25/10/17 A Crouch End Chinese restaurant owner has said it was

lucky nobody was hurt after a masked group set off a flare firework inside

<http://www.hamhigh.co.uk/news/crime-court/firework-thrown-into-crouch-end-chinese-restaurant-jade-palace-1-5251843> Huddersfield Daily Examiner

25/10/17 Shocking footage of firefighters being attacked with bricks

and fireworks has been released in a bid to cut down on such incidents

<https://www.examinerlive.co.uk/news/west-yorkshire-news/watch-shocking-footage-released-yobs-13810944> Chronicle

Live 25/10/17 A total of 464kg of fireworks were seized including

explosives which had been stored illegally in a garage in Newcastle's West End

<http://www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/dangerous-haul-fireworks-stored-west-13812622> The Star

Sheffield

26/10/17 A knuckleduster and fireworks were dumped by youths running away from police officers on a Sheffield estate.

<https://www.thestar.co.uk/news/knuckleduster-and-fireworks-dumped-by-youths-running-off-from-police-on-sheffield-estate-1-8825313> East Lothian Courier

26/10/17 POLICE were bombarded with complaints last night after a

flurry of fireworks were set off after 11pm.

http://www.eastlothiancourier.com/news/15622233.Late_night_fireworks_s_park_a_flurry_of_complaints/ Get West

London

26/10/17 A 17-year-old has been charged with affray and throwing

fireworks in Southall

<https://www.mylondon.news/news/west-london-news/teenager-charged-affray-after-reports-13813973> Stoke Sentinel

27/10/17 Officers called out after fireworks let off in the street over 5 nights across Stoke On Trent

<https://www.stokesentinel.co.uk/news/stoke-on-trent-news/police-warning-after-youths-repeatedly-690957> Nottingham

Post

27/10/17 Police patrols will be increased in the Carrington area after multiple reports of youths throwing fireworks in the

street

<http://www.stokesentinel.co.uk/news/stoke-on-trent-news/police-warning-after-youths-repeatedly-690957> Aberdeen

Journal/BBC News/ Herald

28/10/17 Two 18 year old males setting off and throwing fireworks

within a car park said a Police Scotland spokesman

<https://www.eveningexpress.co.uk/fp/news/local/police-called-teens-throw-fireworks-near-beach1/> Aberdeen Evening

Express

28/10/17 Police have seized fireworks after tackling two teenagers throwing off fireworks near Aberdeen beach

<https://www.eveningexpress.co.uk/fp/news/local/police-called-teens-throw-fireworks-near-beach1/> The News

Portsmouth

28/10/17 People setting off fireworks close to the Lidl car park https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10155799216107418&id=114450942417&hc_location=ufi STV News Glasgow

STV News Glasgow

28/10/17 Ten-year-old girl struck by lit firework in Glasgow <https://stv.tv/news/west-central/1400959-ten-year-old-girl-struck-by-lit-firework-in-glasgow/> Bristol Post 28/10/17 Arsonists riding on motorbikes shot a firework at a home

and set a garden on fire in South Bristol last night.

<http://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/arsonists-motorbike-shoot-fireworks-bristol-695534>

SOURCE DATE COMMENT WEBLINK STV News Dumfries

30/10/17 A nine-year-old boy has been shown setting off a rocket in a Snapchat video

<https://stv.tv/news/west-central/1401067-boy-nine-filmed-setting-off-fireworks-on-snapchat/> Lincolnshire Live

30/10/17 A horse has been badly injured after it ran into the path of a car when it was running away from a firework display close to the A57

<http://www.lincolnshirelive.co.uk/news/local-news/horse-left-badly-injured-leaps-702824>

Manchester Evening News/Greater Manchester Police

30/10/17 Terrified newsagents staff had to run for their lives when two men hurled lit fireworks inside their shop

<http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/police-want-speak-men-after-13834244>

Wigan Today 30/10/17 Yobs who attack firefighters have once again been condemned following the latest in a spate of sickening assaults on the emergency services

<https://www.wigantoday.net/news/crime/attacks-against-our-firefighters-must-end-now-1-8830563> Liverpool Echo

31/10/17 A woman who lives just off Allerton Road reported that a gang of youths had put a firework through her letter box

<http://www.liverpooecho.co.uk/news/liverpool-news/mischief-night-merseyside-bus-windows-13834532> Deeside.com

31/10/17 Kids letting fireworks off in park <http://www.deeside.com/police-keep-eye-kids-halloween/> Cheshire Police

31/10/17 Mindless vandals threw bricks at cars, set fire to wheelie bins and threw fireworks last night causing disruption to residents in Halton and Winsford

<https://www.facebook.com/cheshirepolice/photos/a.10156017142794015.1.073741915.172629054014/10156017142954015/?type=3&theater> Warrington Police

31/10/17 9 Dispersal Orders to youths and confiscated over 40 fireworks which were being used in anti socialbehaviour.

https://www.facebook.com/PoliceWar/posts/2011651759046662:0?hc_location=ufi

Loughborough Echo

01/11/17 It has been reported that people have been discharging fireworks in the early hours of the morning.

<http://www.loughboroughecho.net/news/local-news/fireworks-warning-issued-public-13838437> Tyne and Wear Police

01/11/17 Firefighters attacked with fireworks https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10154723030131612&id=30300321611&hc_location=ufi Kent online 01/11/17 Terrified residents hid in their homes as hordes of teenagers roamed the streets of Vigo last night, throwing fireworks at cars, pelting homes with pumpkins and intimidating villagers.

<http://www.kentonline.co.uk/gravesend/news/mob-rule-for-halloween-as-134546/>

Birmingham Mail

01/11/17 Blazing rocket lobbed at Boldmere's Harvester restaurant by a young male

<http://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/teens-run-lives-after-thugs-13842752> Yorkshire Evening Post

01/11/17 Firefighters in Leeds were among West Yorkshire crews pelted with stones and fireworks during six attacks on Halloween night

<https://www.yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk/news/west-yorkshire-fire-crews-pelted-with-fireworks-and-bricks-in-halloween-night-attacks-1-8835149> Huddersfield Daily Examiner

01/11/17 Fireworks deliberately thrown with potentially devastating effects.

<http://www.examiner.co.uk/news/west-yorkshire-news/fireworks-thrown-cars-egged-yobs-13842172> Leicester Mercury

01/11/17 Students have been blamed for a series of incidents which have seen fireworks launched at buildings and cars

<http://www.leicestermercury.co.uk/news/leicester-news/students-blamed-after-fireworks-launched-709758> Coventry Telegraph

01/11/17 Police had fireworks, stones and bottles thrown at them as they tackled a group of youngsters who were launching fireworks at vehicles and pedestrians

<http://www.coventrytelegraph.net/news/coventry-news/police-attacked-gang-launching-fireworks-13843400>

Harrogate Advertiser

01/11/17 Teenagers throw fireworks at cars <https://www.harrogateadvertiser.co.uk/news/crime/teenagers-threw-fireworks-at-cars-and-eggs-at-houses-on-halloween-in-harrogate-1-8835636>

SOURCE DATE COMMENT WEBLINK Nottingham Post

01/11/17 Masked men armed with sticks and a baseball bat threw fireworks inside a Sneinton Dale off-licence

<http://www.nottinghampost.com/news/local-news/masked-men-armed-weapons-threw-713832> Bristol Post 01/11/17

Men in Halloween masks terrorised families as they drove

around launching live fireworks out of a car window at mothers and children

<http://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/five-men-wearing-purge-masks-712250>

Birmingham Mail

01/11/17 Fireworks shot into oncoming traffic in Mosely <http://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/shocking-footage-shows-fireworks-shot-13839963>

Hertfordshire Mercury

01/11/17 A keep fit class was under way at Havers Community

Centre in Knights Row when the lit firework was tossed into the building

<http://www.hertfordshiremercury.co.uk/news/hertfordshire-news/havers-community-centre-bishops-stortford-744012>

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01/11/17 A red Vauxhall Corsa was stopped by officers in Laburnum

Crescent after residents reported that fireworks were coming from the car

<http://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/news/derby-news/reports-fireworks-being-set-people-710108>

News Shopper 01/11/17 A group of masked kids petrified shoppers in Welling by

throwing lit fireworks inside a busy newsagents

http://www.newsshopper.co.uk/news/15633738.Halloween_terror_in_Welling_as_masked_youths_throw_lit_fireworks_in_newsagents/?ref=fbshr Shropshire Star 02/11/17 Three teenagers escaped potentially serious injury after a

lit firework was shot at them from a car

<https://www.shropshirestar.com/news/crime/2017/11/02/it-went-off-with-a-massive-explosion---fireworks-thrown-at-teenagers-from-car-in-oswestry/> Liverpool Echo 02/11/17 Youths recklessly lobbed fireworks at a police car

following

a number of attacks on vehicles across Merseyside

<http://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/liverpool-news/unbelievable-moment-more-youths-recklessly-13849704> Wales on

Line 02/11/17 Police have confirmed that fireworks were thrown in their

direction on Halloween in a Cardiff suburb

<http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/fireworks-thrown-police-members-public-13841743> Dumfries and

Galloway Police

03/11/17 Man remanded in custody for fireworks offence after

reports a man was setting off fireworks dangerously close to homes in the Stranraer area

<https://www.facebook.com/DumfriesGallowayPoliceDivision/photos/a.216380728442246.54662.178118298935156/151545011868628/?type=3&theater> The Sentinel 03/11/17 Police fled for their own safety when fireworks were

thrown at them after officers had pulled over a vehicle in the early hours

<http://www.stokesentinel.co.uk/news/stoke-on-trent-news/firework-deliberately-fired-police-officers-723833> Maldon Star

03/11/17 Officers were called after a firework struck and smashed

through a first floor double glazed window

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ship may be in distress, a lifeboat crew has said

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-tyne-41870076>

BBC News 04/11/17 A man is injured and later dies in hospital after an arson

attack in which a firework is let off inside a house

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-birmingham-41869897>

Bristol Post 04/11/17 Injuries as firework explodes into crowd of children and hits man in face at Bristol school

<http://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/injuries-firework-explodes-crowd-children-728174>

SOURCE DATE COMMENT WEBLINK Sunderland Echo

04/11/17 Firework was thrown into vehicle, which then exploded

inside, rendering the car a write-off

<https://www.sunderlandecho.com/our-region/sunderland/sunderland-fan-s-car-trashed-in-shocking-firework->

[attack-while-he-was-at-bolton-wanderers-match-1-8839740](#) Hertfordshire Mercury

04/11/17 Two teenage girls were burned and a young man was taken to hospital after a fireworks attack in Broxbourne

<http://www.hertfordshiremercury.co.uk/news/broxbourne-fireworks-attack-burns-two-740309> London Evening Standard

04/11/17 Dramatic body-cam footage shows officers approaching Lavender Park before fireworks are fired in their direction

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/shocking-moment-thugs-shoot-fireworks-at-police-officers-from-southwest-london-park-a3676591.html> Blog Preston 04/11/17 Police have been called to reports of youths throwing fireworks at cars in Preston

<http://www.blogpreston.co.uk/2017/11/fireworks-thrown-at-cars-in-blackpool-road/> Sheffield Online 04/11/17 Report received of youths setting fireworks off in the street

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<https://www.facebook.com/onlinesheffield/photos/a.679981832030695.1073741842.609632969065582/1899755243386675/?type=3&theater> Salisbury Journal

04/11/17 People ran in fear from malfunctioning fireworks that were shot into the crowd at a bonfire night event on Saturday

http://www.salisburyjournal.co.uk/news/salisbury/salisburynews/15641558_/_Everyone_started_screaming_after_fireworks_shot_into_crowd_at_town_event/ The Argus 04/11/17 Zoe Ball's mum: "Rocket could have killed me"

http://www.theargus.co.uk/news/15641100.Zoe_Ball_s_mum__Rocket_could_have_killed_me/ Stoke Sentinel

04/11/17 Firefighters called to house fire after firework thrown through window

<http://www.stokesentinel.co.uk/news/firefighters-called-house-fire-after-729654> Lancashire Post 04/11/17 Firework shop closed down by police <https://www.lep.co.uk/your-lancashire/preston/fireworks-shop-closed-down-by-police-1-8841025> Heart News Sussex

04/11/17 Man hit in chest by stray firework lucky to be alive. 126 casualties and 2 houses damaged

<http://www.heart.co.uk/sussex/news/local/lewes-bonfire-casualties/>

Mirror 04/11/17 Massive fire breaks out at scrapyard as fireworks go off in background

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/massive-fire-breaks-out-scrapyard-11469180> Derby Telegraph

05/11/17 Cat died after vile sadists tied two firework rockets to it and set them off

<http://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/news/derby-news/vile-sadists-kill-cat-alvaston-728784> Manchester Evening News

05/11/17 Firefighters were attacked with bottles and fireworks during one of the busiest nights of the year for emergency crews

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/firefighters-were-pelted-bottles-fireworks-13859972> BBC News 05/11/17 Fourteen people were injured at a bonfire event when fireworks malfunctioned and shot into the crowd

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-wiltshire-41876233>

Planet Radio 05/11/17 Families are claiming they're 'traumatised' after last night's fireworks in Elgin, which reportedly reduced kids to tears

<https://planetradio.co.uk/mfr/local/news/watch-moray-fireworks-scene-horror-movie/>

The Scottish Sun

05/11/17 Fireworks strapped to sex doll explodes in garden <https://www.thescottishsun.co.uk/news/1798890/firework-exploding-scots-lads-garden-sex-doll/>

Mirror 05/11/17 Gang of 100 youths turn nasty at family firework display <http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/gangs-hundred-yobs-turn-nasty-11470812>

SOURCE DATE COMMENT WEBLINK Daily Record 05/11/17 Lit firework hurtles towards man's face outside chip shop <http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/watch-horrifying-moment-lit-firework-11471024>

West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue

05/11/17 Video of firework aimed at firefighter narrowly missing him <https://www.facebook.com/WYFRS/videos/1162369317548971708054322573142/?type=2&theater>

Derbyshire Police

05/11/17 Firework posted through letterbox, police attended a second similar call out

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10155941855968000&id=110982222999&hc_location=ufi Bolton News

05/11/17 Fireworks have been thrown at crews as they attended a

bonfire started by youths in a park

http://www.theboltonnews.co.uk/news/15642130.Fireworks_thrown_at_firefighters_as_they_are_called_to_a_bonfire_set_by_youths/ Gazette Live 05/11/17 Firework pierces conservatory roof feet from grandchildren

<http://www.gazettelive.co.uk/news/teside-news/firework-pierces-conservatory-roof-just-13861471> Wiltshire 999s 05/11/17 A black and white Collie dog

which ran away from its owner

during last night's fireworks has been found dead on the A419 in Swindon this afternoon

<http://www.wiltshire999s.co.uk/runaway-collie-dog-found-dead-after-being-hit-by-car-on-a419-in-swindon/> Bristol Post

05/11/17 Dad hit in the face by firework during display says it could have been 2 year old son

<http://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/dad-hit-face-firework-during-731712> The Sun 06/11/17 A 21-year-old man, who was hit in the chest by a stray

firework during Lewes bonfire night, is fighting for his life.

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/1975177/lewes-bonfire-night-2017-effigy-ticket-celebrations-fireworks/> Cornwall Live

06/11/17 A stray firework is believed to have sparked a large fire on the hillside above St Agnes

<http://www.cornwalllive.com/news/cornwall-news/st-agnes-fire-sparked-stray-731926> Liverpool Echo 06/11/17 Sparks fly as firework hits house and explodes <http://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/liverpool-news/watch-firework-flies-across-street-13862952> Huddersfield Examiner

06/11/17 At least 100 youths pelt fire brigade with fireworks, crews

had to turn and leave as they came under siege

<http://www.examiner.co.uk/news/west-yorkshire-news/firefighters-pelted-fireworks-mob-least-13862829> Evening

Express 06/11/17 Organisers of an annual North-east fireworks display have launched an investigation after sparks went flying into the crowd

<https://www.eveningexpress.co.uk/fp/news/local/investigation-launched-following-sparks-incident-at-fireworks-display1/>

Manchester Evening News

06/11/17 Man from Littleborough, Rochdale, was punched after

reportedly confronting youths throwing fireworks

<http://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/keith-maden-rochdale-tributes-fireworks-13725465> Bournemouth Echo

06/11/17 Detectives are investigating after a car was "gutted" shortly

after fireworks were fired in Boscombe

https://www.bournemouthecho.co.uk/news/15642501.WATCH__Car_goes_up_in_flamesShortly_after_fireworks_are_thrown_in_Boscombe_park/ Pulse 1 Leeds 06/11/17 18 Attacks On West Yorkshire Fire Teams Over Bonfire

Weekend

<https://www.pulse1.co.uk/news/local/fireworks-fired-at-emergency-services-in-leeds/> West Yorkshire Police

06/11/17 Police are appealing for information following two

incidents of firework-related disorder in Leeds last night.

<https://www.westyorkshire.police.uk/news-appeals/appeal-over-firework-related-disorder-leeds> Courier Dundee 06/11/17 Broughty Ferry man found toys burning in home after

firework posted through letterbox

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/local/dundee/539678/broughty-ferry-man-found-toys-burning-home-fireworks-posted-letterbox/>

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06/11/17 Fireworks thrown at police officers and fire engine attacked as more than 500 incidents reported across South Yorkshire within hours

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=10154877933318414&id=63449943413&hc_location=ufi

Eastern Daily Press

06/11/17 Mum left bleeding after being hit by firework debris at

Norwich's Big Boom display

<http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/politics/mum-left-bleeding-after-being-hit-by-firework-debris-at-norwich-s-big-boom-display-1-5268023> Evening Standard

06/11/17 Youths shot fireworks at each other during a two-hour

"battle" on a housing estate in Whitechapel, East London

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/shocking-video-shows-reckless-youths-in-two-hour-battle-with-fireworks-on-housing-estate-in-a3677836.html> STV News 06/11/17 A police officer in Edinburgh suffered serious burns

while

responding to a call on Bonfire Night.

<https://stv.tv/news/east-central/1401616-police-injured-by-firework-after-responding-to-call/> Hull Daily Mail 06/11/17

Woman lets firework off in middle of street <http://www.hulldailymail.co.uk/news/>

[hull-east-yorkshire-news/shocking-moment-sniggering-woman-sets-735478](http://www.hulldailymail.co.uk/news/hull-east-yorkshire-news/shocking-moment-sniggering-woman-sets-735478) Liverpool Echo 06/11/17 Shop owner said his staff were 'scared for their lives' when

a box of lit fireworks was thrown into his store

<https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/liverpool-news/why-doing-us-bootle-shop-13865357> ITV News 07/11/17

Fireworks thrown at medics helping hit-and-run victim <http://www.itv.com/news/central/2017-11-07/fireworks-thrown-at-medics-helping-hit-and-run-victim/>

Fife Today 07/11/17 Police are looking for two men after a firework was put

through the door of a Fife home during the early hours of the morning

<http://www.fifetoday.co.uk/news/crime/police-hunt-pair-after-late-night-fireworks-attack-on-home-1-4606987> East

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07/11/17 Police appeal after fireworks flung at firefighters in Stepney <http://www.eastlondonadvertiser.co.uk/news/crime-court/police-appeal-after-fireworks-flung-at-firefighters-in-stepney-1-5269658>

Mirror 07/11/17 Couple's home completely destroyed by firework <http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/couples-home-completely-destroyed-firework-11474576>

Express and Star

07/11/17 A woman had a lucky escape after jobs launched lit

fireworks at her, narrowly missing her head

<https://www.expressandstar.com/news/crime/2017/11/07/fireworks-aimed-at-womans-head-in-walsall/> Wigan Today

07/11/17 Greater Manchester Mayor Andy Burnham has blasted

jobs who ambushed a fire engine in which he was riding out with a crew.

<https://www.wigantoday.net/news/crime/mayor-s-anger-as-he-is-caught-up-in-yob-ambush-of-fire-engine-1-8844302>

ITV News 07/11/17 Firefighter left requiring hospital treatment after a group

launched fireworks at emergency services

<https://www.itv.com/news/london/2017-11-07/firefighter-injured-after-group-attack-emergency-services-with-fireworks/>

Wiltshire Times 07/11/17 A lit firework was shoved through a Trowbridge couple's

letter box on Sunday night

http://www.wiltshiretimes.co.uk/news/15645404.Lit_firework_shoved_through_Trowbridge_couple__39_s_letter_box/

Derby Telegraph

07/11/17 Derbyshire Fire and Rescue say they were called to a total

number of 15 incidents over the weekend

<http://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/news/your-verdict-whether-public-should-740193> Birmingham Mail

07/11/17 Youths using fireworks to attack each other in the Eastside

area of Birmingham City Centre

<http://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/birmingham-city-centre-firework-attack-13868115>

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<http://metro.co.uk/2017/11/07/1200-exploding-fireworks-thrown-into-corner-shop-hitting-worker-in-the-eye-7059263/>

Plymouth Herald

07/11/17 Box of fireworks started fire at Devonport tower block <http://www.plymouthherald.co.uk/news/local-news/box-fireworks-started-fire-devonport-740346>

The Scottish Sun

08/11/17 A female cop was badly burned in a firework gang attack

after a request for full riot squad back-up was ignored, outraged colleagues claimed

<https://www.thescottishsun.co.uk/news/1814635/female-cop-burn-firework-exploded-edinburgh-rioting-yobs-backup-ignored/>

Hertfordshire Mercury

08/11/17 Police in Bishop's Stortford have urged parents to take

action after children as young as 12 terrorised shoppers and staff with fireworks

<http://www.hertfordshiremercury.co.uk/news/hertfordshire-news/police-warn-parents-over-fireworks-744251> Coventry

Telegraph

08/11/17 A toddler was rushed to hospital after being hit by a

firework on Bonfire Night weekend

<http://www.coventrytelegraph.net/news/local-news/toddler-hit-firework-horror-bonfire-13874069> Leicester Mercury

08/11/17 Firefighter describes fireworks raining down on crew as

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<http://www.leicestermercury.co.uk/news/leicester-news/firefighter-describes-fireworks-raining-down-741625> Wales online 08/11/17 Youths are throwing lit fireworks into gardens just 24 hours

after a devastating nearby house fire

<http://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales-news/youths-throwing-lit-fireworks-gardens-13876578> Rugby Advertiser

08/11/17 Rugby primary school forced to close after lit fireworks

thrown at children

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08/11/17 Motorcycles were being ridden through the shopping areas

and riders were seen to let off fireworks

<https://www.hampshire.police.uk/news/witness-appeals/motorcyclists-continue-endanger-public-havant/> Manchester Evening News

08/11/17 Gang of 60 youths surround police van in Ashton-under-

Lyne hurling fireworks at it injuring two officers

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/gang-sixty-youths-surrounded-police-13877475> Sunderland Echo

08/11/17 On Sunday night a group of 15 to 20 year olds deliberately

targeted police officers and fire fighters with fireworks as they carried out joint patrols in the Southwick area of Sunderland.

<https://www.sunderlandecho.com/news/yobs-attack-firefighters-and-police-with-fireworks-on-bonfire-night-1-8846732>

Metro 08/11/17 Police have been injured after teenagers surrounded their

van and starting hurling fireworks in Ashton-Under-Lyne, Greater Manchester

<https://metro.co.uk/2017/11/08/police-injured-after-teenagers-surround-them-hurling-fireworks-7065185/> Scottish Sun 09/11/17 Police and fire crews raced to the scene after an unknown

“firework device” was found.

<https://www.thescottishsun.co.uk/news/1128811/man-arrested-controlled-explosion-paisley-firework/> Leicester Mercury

10/11/17 Woman scarred for life in firework attack outside Leicester

pub

<http://www.leicestermercury.co.uk/news/leicester-news/woman-scarred-life-firework-attack-758055> Kent online

10/11/17 Yobs use fireworks to blow up wall <http://www.kentonline.co.uk/ashford/news/yobs-use-fireworks-to-blow-135008/> Devon Live 10/11/17 Fireworks set off on Teignmouth railway line

<http://www.devonlive.com/news/devon-news/fireworks-set-railway-line-teignmouth-755727> Daily Record 10/11/17 Cat flees fireworks by climbing into zoo

wolf enclosure [http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/scotland](http://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/scotland-now/help-meowt-cat-flees-fireworks-11497012?service=responsive)

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SOURCE DATE COMMENT WEBLINK Camden Journal 10/11/17 A street fireworks display was shut down on Bonfire

Night,

forcing revellers to stage it in a nearby garden instead

<http://camdennewjournal.com/article/police-halt-fireworks-display-held-in-street> Sunderland Echo

10/11/17 Bonfire night brick and firework attack on Sunderland

home treated as arson

<https://www.sunderlandecho.com/our-region/sunderland/bonfire-night-brick-and-firework-attack-on-sunderland-home-treated-as-arson-1-8851677> Spotted Crawley

10/11/17 Fireworks set off near cars https://www.facebook.com/SpottedCrawley/posts/869678456514757?hc_location=ufi Barnsley Chronicle

11/11/17 Firework throwing teen banned from Barnsley Interchange [https://www.barnsleychronicle.com/a](https://www.barnsleychronicle.com/article/firework-throwing-teen-banned-from-interchange)

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wall and conservatory when it was spooked by fireworks

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2017/11/12/dog-rescued-getting-stuck-six-inch-gap-wall-conservatory-spooked/> BBC News 13/11/17 Human fingers found in Leeds street following firework

accident last week

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[e4b0a2071a6b09ca](#) Swansea Online 14/11/17 Horse ran itself to death after firework display held a week after bonfire night

https://www.facebook.com/SwanseaOnline1/posts/1727690893970156?hc_location=ufi Chronicle Live 15/11/17 Cat dressed in Halloween costume before fireworks

strapped to its back and detonated

www.chroniclelive.co.uk/news/north-east-news/cat-dressed-halloween-costume-before-13904943 Minster FM 15/11/17

Kids were lighting fireworks in the local field <https://www.minsterfm.com/news/lo>

cal/2430164/boston-spa-woman-calls-for-action-on-anti-social-behaviour/ ITV News 17/11/17 5 year old girl badly burned after firework thrown through

kitchen window

<http://www.itv.com/news/granada/2017-11-17/five-year-old-girl-badly-burned-after-lit-firework-is-thrown-through-kitchen-window/> Grantham Journal

16/11/17 Firework goes off inside cinema <https://www.granthamjournal.co.uk/news/firework-goes-off-inside-grantham-cinema-1-8248736>

Herald Scotland 18/11/17 Pupils jacket melted after it was hit by firework http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/15668963.Pupil_s_jacket_melted_after_he_was_hit_by_firework/

BasildonCanvey Southend Echo

21/11/17 Dangerous debris from firework display left for more than 2

weeks in memorial park

http://www.echo-news.co.uk/news/15673491.____Dangerous____items_left_after_fireworks/#comments-anchor Salisbury Journal

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Manchester United at Old Trafford

<http://www.espn.co.uk/football/benfica/story/3280129/benfica-avoid-punishment-following-old-trafford-fireworks-charge>

Get Surrey 23/11/17 Aldershot police incident: firework found after armed police raid Ash Road

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=1852941644733589&id=369041236456978&hc_location=ufi

SOURCE DATE COMMENT WEBLINK Yorkshire Coast Radio

27/11/17 Fireworks litter Scarborough beach <https://www.yorkshirecoastradio.com/news/local-news/2439990/fireworks-litter-scarborough-beach/> BBC 28/11/17 Several rooms of a house were badly damaged after lit

fireworks were pushed through the letterbox

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-highlands-islands-42153025> Brighton and Hove News

30/11/17 Footage of fans setting off flares and fireworks outside Brighton & Hove stadium, believed to be an attempt to distract sniffer dogs

<http://www.brightonandhovenews.com/g/2017/11/30/more-arrests-expected-as-police-examine-video-of-palace-match-disorder/> Wrexham.com 14/12/17 Southsea street reopens after several hour lockdown due

to 'suspicious' fireworks package found

<http://www.wrexham.com/news/southsea-street-reopens-after-several-hour-lockdown-due-to-suspicious-fireworks-package-found-141977.html> Alton Herald 18/12/17 A Haslemere man has been arrested on suspicion of

making or possessing explosives under suspicious circumstances. During a search of the property, officers found a number of fireworks

<http://www.altonherald.com/article.cfm?id=124738&headline=Police%20in%20%E2%80%98explosives%E2%80%99%20discovery§ionIs=news&searchyear=2017>

Chard & Ilminster News

21/12/17 Firefighters tackled a huge blaze at a West Somerset

beauty spot that was caused by fireworks

http://www.chardandilminsternews.co.uk/news/15786371.Huge_fire_at_a_West_Somerset_beauty_spot/?ref=mobile&lp=13 EDP 4 News 23/12/17 Man admitted a charge of throwing a firework in a public

place when he appeared at Norwich Magistrates

<http://www.edp24.co.uk/news/crime/man-fined-for-throwing-lit-firework-into-bin-at-forum-in-norwich-1-5332450> St

Helen Star 29/12/17 A dog has gone missing after jobs hurled fireworks at her

in a park

https://www.sthelensstar.co.uk/news/15798180.Dog_goes_missing_after_jobs_hurl_fireworks_at_her_in_park/?ref=fbpg&utm_source=Facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=Social_SignIn KLFM news 29/12/17 Firework was

thrown into a property in South Wootton <https://www.klfm967.co.uk/news/kf>

[m-news/2467622/firework-thrown-into-south-wootton-home/](http://www.burytimes.co.uk/news/15799798) Bury Times 30/12/17 Police and firefighters were called to reports that a firework had been put through the letterbox

<http://www.burytimes.co.uk/news/15799798>. Firework thrown through letter box in Bury/ Time 31/12/17 A family in Hornchurch has had a lucky escape after a "stray firework" filled their flat with smoke
https://www.facebook.com/time107.5/posts/1506527109467800?hc_location=ufi

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01/01/18 Police treating fireworks let off in Thetford apartment building as arson

<https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/crime/police-investigating-fire-works-set-off-in-apartment-building-1-5339785> Facebook 02/01/18 Large group of teenagers running across

Scartho Fork roundabout in front of cars, setting off fireworks

https://www.facebook.com/scarthowatch/posts/1451278164981278?hc_location=ufi

South Wales Argus

04/01/18 Fireworks sparked spate of injured stray dog calls

<https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/gwent/news/15807454>. Fear fireworks sparked spate of injured stray dog calls/ The Courier 12/01/18 Anger after horse hit by firework during

bonfire in field

<https://www.thecourier.co.uk/fp/news/local/dundee/578148>. Anger after horse hit by firework during bonfire in field/ The Star 12/01/18 Scuffles break out near Bramall Lane as

fireworks are set off inside pubs

<https://www.thestar.co.uk/news/video-scuffles-break-out-near-bramall-lane-as-fireworks-are-set-off-inside-pubs-1-8955636> Daily Mail 11/02/18 Police and firefighters rushed to Husbands

Bosworth, Leicestershire after several emergency calls claimed that a flaming plane was about to crash to the ground.

Emergency services later confirmed that it was an aircraft flown with fireworks on its wings.

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5382101/Aeroplane-fireworks-attached-wings-causes-panic.html?fbclid=IwAR2QHDxxBnWiCYp6VzM87iiVDLnOHKn0Njza_EEWpulkQr6mvkAXPA-io1M

Evening Telegraph

21/02/18 Police were called out to a Dundee street after yobs set off fireworks

https://www.eveningtelegraph.co.uk/fp/reckless-yobs-set-off-fireworks-dundee-street/?fbclid=IwAR01ATqeR7sWm54Tx6s3s4iHhQ_FQ3RdJp8Fk8LN9q12w14gb3F4vH3pBm98 Manchester Evening

News

07/03/18 Visiting supporters from Basel let off fireworks at the end of the match at Manchester City

https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/basel-fined-after-fireworks-set-14475042?fbclid=IwAR2QUJToxiy8pZapXI0W0Mqr56jF4Fhm9O6fAkVsYRZuoUjRjgDfizPmx_w Bristol Live 19/03/18 Fireworks set off inside warehouse during illegal rave

<https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/whats-on/music-nightlife/inside-secret-bristol-warehouse-rave-1358449?fbclid=IwAR3N2HJvZ1oz6cUsF7KUdx5HidEqWkcksgOrt2QeUq-vT2MqR46v0H31jKc>

Derbyshire Times

23/03/18 Groups of young people are meeting at Dronfield train station drinking alcohol, committing anti-social behaviour, setting off fireworks and smashing windows

<https://www.derbyshiretimes.co.uk/news/young-people-meeting-at-train-station-are-drinking-alcohol-setting-off-fireworks-and-smashing-windows-1-9079233?fbclid=IwAR1L5PKJjskK3gilvBfaoz-6Hoy4XWG0LGwYOsRh50Y8eKmOjlpS1j8Oli4> Kent Live 30/03/18 Boys throwing fireworks sparked an

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https://www.kentlive.news/news/boys-throwing-fireworks-sparked-emergency-1405198?fbclid=IwAR1IhFFIEXSCKQp7pOTqq1rbA_kZodrJgN9YcABFvWIGsvLvKv78i4IF6tc ESPN 04/04/18 Liverpool fans threw bottles and cans and

aimed fireworks at the Manchester City bus as it arrived at Anfield

<http://www.espn.co.uk/soccer/uefa-champions-league/story/3442715/liverpool-fans-throw-bottles-and-aim-fireworks-at-manchester-city-bus> Devon Live 08/04/18 Devon fishermen released flares and fireworks as part of a large-scale protest on Plymouth's Sound against the Brexit transition deal

https://www.devonlive.com/news/devon- news/devon-fisherman-stage-brexite-protest-1432925?fbclid=IwAR1QoHRz1Vs__idubZycnqgpN U_L-IsHbxZecVUtq4gQC3D-7IYH8ck3qFI South Wales Argus
09/04/18 Gwent Police confirmed they arrested a 16-

year-old and a 15-year-old on High Street, Newport, for separate incidents which both involved throwing fireworks

https://www.southwalesargus.co.uk/news/161542.23.Two_teenagers_arrested_after_throwing_fireworks_in_a_city_centre_street/?fbclid=IwAR2A5Wg Nd4_1aJ3gAHEo5- xG_7gGkMx0xntdpTQ_yRqJxYQYTd-8L54Cu_w
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01/05/18 A Royal Navy bomb squad was called over to the Isle of Wight to safely dispose of confiscated fireworks

<https://www.iwcp.co.uk/news/16197284.bomb- disposal-team-called-to-the-isle-of-wight-after-fireworks-confiscated-by-police/> Manchester Evening News

08/05/18 Police investigate reports of teenage boys throwing fireworks at horses near Ainsworth Lodges in Bury

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12/07/18 Police launch investigation after lit firework thrown into Stoke-on-Trent house

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16/08/18 Group of youths ignite fireworks outside

Preston flats causing building hallway to set alight

https://www.lep.co.uk/news/crime/group-of- youths-ignite-fireworks-outside-preston-flats-causing-building-hallway-to-set-alight-1- 9306090?fbclid=IwAR1_P1vzfg38u6ITbT5c--TwY6Vpb2qWBKBoL5_jxUyBFWh84OC3-dyj4rM Horse & Hound 01/09/18 Lissa Green withdraws from Burghley after horse injured during firework display 100m from field.

<https://www.horseandhound.co.uk/news/lissa- green-withdraws-burghley-cross-country-663523>

Bucks Herald 05/09/18 Thames Valley Police have launched an investigation into incident at Bedgrove Infant School where firework damage forced the school to open for the new term a day later than planned

<https://www.bucksherald.co.uk/news/this-goes- beyond-mere-vandalism-police-launch-investigation-into-fire-which-delayed-new-term-at- bedgrove-infant-school-1- 8631240?fbclid=IwAR3B6JNzZz3XNbwLhWqBIEat eiGLO3QxfCBvyrwCdoNhg41KXJ7BY0jBAw> Telegraph & Argus

23/09/18 Police arrested a 15-year-old for a firework disorder at a local community centre

<https://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/1 6972823.khidmat-centre-bradford-firework- disorder-leads-to-arrest-of-minor/?fbclid=IwAR09bcYGZ96kfEuDecjmSSnNdjK A4AU5Ny30IBaeHnuel0-gUeqj2SxwJA4> Wales on Line 24/09/18
Passengers see window completely shattered

after lit firework thrown at moving bus

https://www.walesonline.co.uk/news/wales- news/passengers-see-window-completely- shattered-15208624?fbclid=IwAR26CIRxWjBdji9sTtReAH9IC BEXg0IY0vhkbyYbiB_3fM99HWRaY9Wf0g Derby Telegraph

27/09/18 Vandals have caused 'significant' damage to vehicles parked on a residential street after setting off fireworks on the windscreens in Measham

<https://www.derbytelegraph.co.uk/burton/cars- measham-damaged-fireworks-vandalism- 2045672?fbclid=IwAR3-8sqABDuXad4Zna0aV946Q8ZpbP9I0SI82ZjSs- kBSssuloCnVYkedRo> Liverpool Echo 30/09/18 Mum left furious after toddler burnt by flying

ember at firework championship

https://www.liverpooecho.co.uk/news/liverpool- news/mum-left-furious-after-toddler-15223632?fbclid=IwAR3GDEjRcmKDIv- D4ejlvmJ3ZIQSeJELI0SBnvoSq6r_j5nWbB_3KGftek Belfast Telegraph

30/09/18 Police have issued a warning about illegal fireworks following a spate of "horrifying" incidents across Northern Ireland

<https://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/northern-ireland/police-warning-after-spate-of-horrifying-firework-attacks-across-northern-ireland-37369874.html?fbclid=IwAR0-exNSlp4HLBfh6LuXfRSbV31KAtAsikISRRwI8h8Ed-TXRdliPOxsGc> OTS News 01/10/18 High winds left fireworks watchers running for

their lives after pyros rained down on them last night.

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https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cambridgeshire-45731897?fbclid=IwAR0eYCAIWUXZobqA1WJblonnmKHtOlqmAT-7_RZ3hwNneh2KRk0Xu68pwxE BBC News 02/10/18 Fireworks, masonry and trees were thrown at police vehicles in north Belfast

https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-45739409?fbclid=IwAR3v-Zwxi_yHoYGsukVm-YgtPBBu4hirZ8eQZNz_jMdoQjJyuECCVW-8M80 Belfast News Letter

03/10/18 Children lobbing dangerously explosive fireworks at a Craigavon youth club

<https://www.newsletter.co.uk/news/crime/video-children-filmed-lobbing-dangerous-fireworks-at-youth-club-1-8655344?fbclid=IwAR12qdrJjx0dmX0k-dzTXqGpU96YMQFBZ8N1mk5FtcAfoeE22za839NJI> Zw The Standard 04/10/18 Police appeal after youngsters set off fireworks

in Blacon every night for two weeks

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04/10/18 Police in Bradford came under fire as members of the public threw missiles and fireworks at officers during an arrest

<https://www.yorkshireeveningpost.co.uk/news/police-came-under-attack-as-yobs-threw-fireworks-and-missiles-at-officers-during-leeds-man-s-arrest-1-9386627?fbclid=IwAR30I0a7yn7iltTJ8LQHfdafgWNGGiMIDOSwa15ZsjCYcBw7TdZ2EeadAC0> Coventry Live 05/10/18 Man claims he was almost hit by firework with

bolt attached in Coventry

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06/10/18 Officers attended a number of incidents on Saturday night in which groups of teenagers had been spotted throwing fireworks at members of the public in Blackburn

<https://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/169-65905-police-urge-people-not-to-be-irresponsible-after-fireworks-thrown-by-teenagers-in-blackburn/?fbclid=IwAR3B6JNzZz3XNbwLhWqBIEateiGLO3QxfCBYvrvwCdoNhg41KXJ7BY0jBAw> Telegraph & Argus

07/10/18 Police have seized a large selection of fireworks from a residential address in Bradford believed to be selling to youngsters

https://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/1-6966644-fireworks-seized-from-address-believed-to-be-selling-to-people-as-young-as-11/?fbclid=IwAR0OuWojXQ-5x8wdYD9o90mq0YMHTjzLmEkw5-f_KhP1m7I8S3zv9qkyY78 Hull Today 07/10/18 Humberside Police Officers are investigating

after a lit firework was posted through a letterbox at a property in Driffield

<https://www.hull.today/2018/10/driffield-firework-put-letterbox/>

Keighley News 08/10/18 Bradford Council pledges action to tackle firework thugs

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dangers when using fireworks after two thatched cottages in Killeel caught fire

https://www.itv.com/news/utv/2018-10-10/firework-safety-warning-after-two-killeel-cottages-caught-fire/?fbclid=IwAR2-f59osm-0CaLpG_GMR_9_X2CGavF1HjvGgOkkGJMv79wOQflze8fcW3c News & Star 10/10/18 Appeal for witnesses after firework put

through letterbox in Workington

<https://www.newsandstar.co.uk/news/17215926-appeal-for-witnesses-after-firework-put-through-letterbox-in-workington/?fbclid=IwAR0H-M4NDy8C5aU9asJG2wBk9mDMqd88I0wJU6LVA6vNem9NyySzOPGI8PA>

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13/10/18 A Cambridge couple were confronted by two men in their 20s setting off dozens of fireworks in the Elizabeth Way underpass

https://www.cambridge-news.co.uk/news/cambridge-news/bonfire-night-fireworks-set-illegal-15292308?fbclid=IwAR26CIRhxWjBdji9sTtReAH9ICBExg0IY0vhkbyYbiB_3fM99HWRaY9Wf0g This is Local London

13/10/18 A group of around 50 to 100 youngsters throwing items, including fireworks, at vehicles and properties around Stapleton Hall Road, Haringey at around 10.30pm

https://www.thisislocalondon.co.uk/news/169853-49.night-of-mayhem-100-strong-mob-throw-fireworks-at-cars-and-houses-in-haringey/?fbclid=IwAR2cCJfH_A3hptWYglDheolbm4Tyr7JTYFtvM7VLZGey_38CsilADXbkCwU Wigan Today

14/10/18 A firework was set off inside a Wigan shopping centre

https://www.wigantoday.net/news/firework-set-off-inside-wigan-shopping-centre-1-9396223?fbclid=IwAR1g6AjKI2X5wUDK2s9ThCxPjtUEc9ftH29fm-kvau__jvoExOxFhc4-Qc0 Manchester Evening News

14/10/18 Two boys have been arrested after a stray firework set fire to a family home in Ashton-under-Lyne

https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/two-boys-arrested-fireworks-ashton-15322881?fbclid=IwAR1nnsud7Hvg6_cXUXyhn6qlDT7FgeO630O24SEa-hfQ15bbgxXPKjnDa0U Islington Gazette

14/10/18 Riot cops were called when up to 100 children looted from a supermarket off Crouch Hill, threw missiles at cars and set off fireworks early hours Sunday morning

<http://www.islingtongazette.co.uk/news/crime-court/teenagers-loot-stroud-green-s-budget-supermarket-1-5737591?fbclid=IwAR2UE8cxOWfMNVidBtIBHQCRqHUXdMdKpm-KJID6I3qsXQJtNKIVK3igRpE> Chester Standard

14/10/18 A teenage boy was injured after a gang of yobs hit him in the face and stole his bike and phone in Bebington. A firework was allegedly thrown by one of the yobs

https://www.chesterstandard.co.uk/news/169857-24.teenage-boy-injured-by-yobs-who-threw-a-firework-before-stealing-his-bike-and-mobile-phone-in-bebington/?fbclid=IwAR2jj4RScvZOtNICGoe7Pz0Nzq1vcLA9MgFsAWmo0kJI7VuPSK6Yz7_tXnU Manchester Evening News

16/10/18 People living on a Tameside estate say they are too afraid to leave their homes at night in case they are attacked with fireworks

https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/fireworks-youths-ashton-police-misery-15282881?fbclid=IwAR0eYCAIWUXZobqA1WJblonnmKHtOlqMAT-7_RZ3hwNneh2KRk0Xu68pwxE Wirral Globe

17/10/18 Wirral man handed suspended sentence after 'dangerously' storing fireworks in pub

https://www.wirralglobe.co.uk/news/16989447.wirral-man-handed-suspended-sentence-after-dangerously-storing-fireworks-in-pub/?fbclid=IwAR0lyXDchb_5GjCzdB4ddU7ilfh8bEXFmQlcBY2HtX4HauJkDapa0WcFd3A Teeside Live

17/10/18 A woman was forced to flee her home with her three-year-old son after she claims "stupid teenagers" set next door's house on fire in Berwick Hills, Middlesborough

<https://www.gazettelive.co.uk/news/teesside-news/mother-forced-drag-son-3-15296032>

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19/10/18 Greater Manchester police chief calls for total ban on selling fireworks for personal use after residents in Tameside said they were making their lives a misery

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19/10/18 Teens 'threw fireworks' at girl in Ormsgill skate park

<http://www.nwemail.co.uk/news/17186999.teens-threw-fireworks-at-girl-in-ormsgill-skate-park/?fbclid=IwAR36huEkGE7JYBNUyHykF3uT3YxoXjdwgXMZlcrkHICovAmY-zgJolZjFCY> Liverpool Echo

18/10/18 Firefighters were ambushed by a gang of youths who attacked them with fireworks, stones and road signs in Huyton

<https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/liverpool-news/firefighters-attacked-gang-20-youths-15304958?fbclid=IwAR2BaKcQ4Gsfkmgp5qg5xUPZa7qpA2mPXvcGillar4jC5qDIJP6-rKo6Zk>

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19/10/18 Doncaster police seize £40,000 of fireworks during drug raid

<https://www.doncasterfreepress.co.uk/news/polic-e-seize-40-000-of-fireworks-during-doncaster-drugs-raid-1-9406114?fbclid=IwAR0y5rkJwFTzdHm1iSirUMrTXT9KWySkR-K8a8A-sYGCwqM266jzZXmydo8> Eastern Daily Press

19/10/18 Breckland police have detained one person after they were seen throwing fireworks into a hotel lobby

https://www.edp24.co.uk/news/crime/police-arson-fireworks-breckland-attleborough-1-5744880?fbclid=IwAR3Y9-RucenvJtbzF63frgjuYaCnSpkJKc1BahUXamOTw0Xj_nIK2OZswT4 Teeside Live 19/10/18 Saltburn cricket club has said

its Bonfire Night display will go ahead after all of the fireworks were stolen

https://www.gazettelive.co.uk/news/teesside-news/cricket-clubs-show-go-on-15301797?fbclid=IwAR3N2HJvZ1oz6cUsF7KUdx5HI_dEqWkcksgOrt2QeUq-vT2MqR46v0H31jKc Armaghi 20/10/18

Petrol bomb and brick with firework tied to it

thrown through house window in Banbridge

<https://www.armaghi.com/news/banbridge-news/petrol-bomb-and-brick-with-firework-tied-to-it-thrown-through-house-window/77266?fbclid=IwAR0quMoQ0rmx6yY6h-lolaU71jemajbqVo5kR7Bg2PQTGR9H5nLUtbtMk4> Facebook

20/10/18 Home made device made from an aerosol can

and a handful of fireworks taped to it thrown at front porch in Guisborough

https://www.facebook.com/groups/27254646624_1319/permalink/1115257158636908/?hc_location=ufi West Bridgford

Wire

20/10/18 Loud bangs in Nottingham were fireworks, say police

https://westbridgfordwire.com/update-loud-bangs-in-nottingham-were-fireworks-say-police/?fbclid=IwAR2q-jOs0BCV5TeAQFNwGkhHpty6CS3uYjFsrgL4G0Wz9_njVRKOYSdCO4KA Get West London

20/10/18 A group of teens shoot fireworks at each other on a busy Harrow street.

https://www.getwestlondon.co.uk/news/harrow-youths-filmed-setting-fireworks-15313932?fbclid=IwAR3_0dgvN25mN-ISBEL-FtBYxQzNpJDXQsTxWNtmEGsXWIMR9BRewu6y4_0 Bristol Post

20/10/18 Police dog struck by glass bottle as 'chairs and

fireworks' thrown by football fans following Bristol Rovers vs Oxford United match

https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/police-dog-struck-glass-bottle-2131164?fbclid=IwAR1dlHrorVI3YqEiXI_22-A96J0ktjyk11tpVgaAnV89Z-j7m3sS5ggGtK4 Daily Record 20/10/18

Dumfries police hunt yobs who threw lit

fireworks at two women

<https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/local-news/dumfries-police-hut-yobs-who-13472497> NI Newsletter 21/10/18

"Mindless idiots" use firework strapped to

aerosol can to blow up NI child's honesty box

<https://www.newsletter.co.uk/news/crime/mindle-ss-idiots-use-firework-strapped-to-aerosol-can-to-blow-up-ni-child-s-honesty-box-1-8678251?fbclid=IwAR3T8k-4SRn8IKKSNv5lpCPWFSohidns8xRqL6zx3ntBptE-Hesqvj1H9l> Belfast Live 21/10/18

South Belfast kids throw fireworks at each

other in "idiotic behaviour"

https://www.belfastlive.co.uk/news/belfast-news/south-belfast-kids-throw-fireworks-15307859?fbclid=IwAR3sQOnfZXkv_E5I9LKWbu8li_ES3-d2WP1LHuid-77WrJFhfSWMf94zLSsc Scarborough News

23/10/18 A firework set off by a student in the grounds

of Scalby School

<https://www.thescarboroughnews.co.uk/news/fire-work-set-off-near-scalby-school-by-student-1-9412044?fbclid=IwAR1AfRGg1q2odQfBR-tl5nwmw2-s03Su5tnynypSePyg2xoNivbTedfXojw> Surrey Comet 24/10/18

Fireworks burst in front of a police car after

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Chaos after Sheffield derby as fans 'pelted with
fireworks and clash with police'

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APPENDIX D: STATEMENTS FROM PUBLIC We have chosen to include the personal statements that were in our original 2016 report as we feel they are still pertinent.

We asked the public to send in statements detailing how random, unexpected fireworks affected them, their families, their pets. We have grouped the statements into 'human', 'human and animals' and 'animals'. The majority are about animals, we found people were quite reticent to share some of the effects with us. The reason for this is obvious when you understand some of the symptoms of the different medical conditions.

Of the 22 human angle statements included in this report, those with an illness are more greatly affected by the randomness of fireworks. They all acknowledge that if it were possible to know when fireworks are to be used they would find a way to be able to manage to a degree their illnesses for that short period. Many of the illnesses, PTSD, Autism, Aspergers, Ehlers Danlos Syndrome, Fibromyalgia and Hypercursis, to name but a few are made intolerable for the sufferer as their bodies and mental health react to sudden loud noises (fireworks.) They are unable to medicate further as many of the illnesses have a strict regime of medication. In addition, when fireworks are so random, how can counter measures be taken in advance?

To show the degree of feeling we have broken down the most popular words used in this segment.

Fireworks, Loud, Night, Suffer, Fear, PTSD, Anxiety, Sound, Display, Hear, Attacks, Explosives, Home, Scared.

We have included 33 statements that cover both the human and animal aspects, again illness of the member is a big point, including *a young girl who can slip into a coma at any point. Her family rely on her service dog to alert them when this happens, the dog is unable to carry out this life saving function when fireworks are being discharged as he is terrified.* It is not all about the owner or the animal it is about the symbiotic relationship of the two together that suffers.

We have again broken down the most popular words used by members in this section.

Fireworks, Dog, Night, Noise, People, Loud, Affected, Animals, Home, Stress, Scared, Stop, Suffer, Displays, Pets, Anxiety, Cats, Feel, Upset, Horses, Health, Problem, Prepare, Restrict, Sleep.

The largest section of our statements belongs of course to those members who speak on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves. Those animals who live a traumatised life during the winter months. Those that not only live in our homes alongside us but the wildlife, the horses in stables/fields and the livestock that are not only sentient beings but are the means for some people to earn a living. Traumatized, stressed, scared and with even cases of abortion and having to be PTS due to injuries incurred from running away from fireworks.

From the 90 statements we have from members unsurprisingly the most used words are, Fireworks 329, Dog 169, Night 115, Noise 55, Home 49, People 47, Animals 46, Stress 44, Vet 40, Bang 39, Loud 37, Horses 36, Terrified 34, Evening 33,

Shaking 32, Fear 32 Distressed 31.

Firework Human Statements

1. TA52 Bex

I would like to give you an insight as to how Firework Season impacts on the life of myself and my husband who suffers from Complex Combat PTSD & Enduring Personality Change After Catastrophic Reaction after serving ten years in the Armed Forces Please note the term Firework Season as it just seems to get longer and longer with each passing year, then just when you think it's safe along comes New Years Eve and we start all over again. He lives 'safely' in his bubble he has created to not only protect him but to protect us around him. Suddenly his bubble is no longer safe as all around him at any given time are fireworks. It's not only the sound or the flash. It's the smell and if close enough the feel of them going off. Firework Season for my husband means there is added anxiety, hyper vigilance and anxiety induced incontinence, less sleep, more nightmares and flashbacks. He doesn't eat when he's anxious, due to the PTSD and anxiety he now also suffers with GORD. The mix of GORD and hardly eating means more bile which in turn means should he actually manage to take enough of his medication and get to sleep he is either woken with a nightmare or the hell of choking on his own bile where he has been sick in his sleep. For myself there is being a loving wife watching all the afore mentioned and not being able to do a single thing to help him. If we do sleep in the same bed, I get the job of feeling him lying there shaking uncontrollably. But to be honest we rarely do as he worries about lashing out during a nightmare and hitting me. All we ask is that you consider the idea that it be organised displays only and only for a limited period around Guy Fawkes. At least the people like my husband and those with pets can at least be prepared. We had around six weeks of it, I know others are still enduring the season even now.

2. BS37 Ms AMP –Anon

Fireworks really affect me a lot (so does thunder but not as much) due to when I was little my cousin and brother picked me up and joked around pretending to throw me on the bonfire whilst fireworks were going around and also threw fireworks and crackers at me and my dad just loled and told me to man up as I was screaming and crying, I did get injured but not too seriously thankfully but the mental scars are always with me and every time I hear the real loud bangs I think it's another firework been shoved through the letterbox etc. Didn't help that my grandparents dog was petrified too and since that incident we always hid upstairs at my grandparents place under the bed.

The loud bangs are the worse especially when I can hear kids/adults messing around outside. My current rescue hamster is also freaked out by them and so were 3 out of my 7 rescued guinea pigs I had a few years ago. My toddler is also starting to pick up my fear which is not good but thankfully she's a sleep atm. Just hope the fireworks don't wake her up like last year which is another reason to hate them.

3. KA22 Shelagh

I do have pets and while none of them seem particularly bothered by fireworks, I am. I believe anyone setting them off uncontrolled (and by uncontrolled, I mean not at an official organised event with safety officers present) is not only committing a breach of the peace but risking the safety and wellbeing of everyone else around them. We do not sell guns in this country for 'general' use so why do we actively market explosives and deem it acceptable to use them at certain times of the year?

4. PR4 WF –Anon

Hi, I wanted to write a personal statement about my experiences with fireworks. I'll try to make this compact as there are a lot of issues I have and it would be ridiculously long if I tried to include every little detail – I'll be including the minor personal details requested, as well as what I go through when fireworks occur, and my opinions about them. I thank you for your time

and patience in advance.

I'm a 24 year old female living in the PR4 4AX area (Lancashire). I suffer from a hugely complex assortment of physical, psychological, and neurological conditions that make my life hell to endure - without the inconsideration of others on top. My main conditions that are aggravated by fireworks include (but are not limited to) Hyperacusis, various hypersensitivities, PTSD, ASD (Asperger's Syndrome/high-functioning autism), OCD, misophonia, phonophobia, anxiety (various), self-harm, depression, Diabulimia, Anorexia, body dysmorphia, T1 Diabetes, neuropathy, stage 1 blind with maculopathy and retinopathy, gastroesophageal reflux disease, and many more.

Fireworks are a massive trigger for everything for me. As soon as it gets dark I start having panic attacks, and fail to calm down until early morning, when I then spend my time being anxious about noise happening in the day, and ruminating and dreading the coming darkness yet again. When fireworks go off I can't breathe or think clearly; I completely lose my mental capacity and am often reduced to a whimpering, sobbing, wailing wreck of a child, violently shaking, hyperventilating, and pacing around drunkenly as I'm unable to keep my balance due to disorientation. My already-poor vision fizzles out into a white haze and my head screams at me as if it is about to explode. I'll throw my body and beat my head and fists against the walls, and scream and beg for the fireworks to stop - that I just can't take it anymore - that I want to die. Eating, drinking, going to the toilet, and taking medications I need to stay alive just aren't options. I can't wear earplugs or ear defenders because of my hypersensitivities, and trying to sleep or rest is impossible. I can't use other noise as a distraction as that would make things worse thanks to Hyperacusis. Having people there does nothing except physically holding me back from self-harming, and speaking over the phone is useless. Taking sedatives doesn't work as that just causes me to self-harm due to not being able to act on the anxiety building up inside - and trying to go elsewhere to escape? Not a chance as the damn things are going off in every part of the country. I've tried everything possible, and the only thing that works is the fireworks actually stopping. It doesn't matter how horrendously close or far away they are, or the types of bangs, whistles, and crackles that they make - the effect is all the same.

I fail to find any logical, rational reason for fireworks. They're a danger to everybody and everything. Can you imagine what would happen if a terrorist bought a load of the things and set them off in a crowded area, or made more deadly explosives using the components of shop-bought fireworks? It's ridiculous and senseless, and it needs to stop now. Not tomorrow, not next week, next month, or next year - now. In this day and age of 'red-taping' absolutely everything for 'health and safety' reasons, it is absurd to even consider selling explosives so freely to the general public.

27/01/2016 PR4 4AX 17:30pm-??? Constant loud bangs been going off 1 1/2 hours now, non-stop, can't cope with this, want to die, will log if they finish before I kill myself

27/02/2016 PR4 4AX 17:30PMish-19:40PMish. Constant loud bangs that never stopped. No notice or expectation. Had major panic attack(s), wanted to hurt and kill myself, couldn't stop hyperventilating or shaking. Still can't stop shaking. Can't walk for the disorientation. Head and mind shattered. Feels like I'm drowning. Can't calm down and won't be able to for a long time now. Will now have a panic attack at every noise and be terrified for weeks every day when the sky darkens to night. Ignorant, insolent "carer" didn't help. I'm beyond sick of suffering because of other people. Also taking the opportunity to mention this; in my statement I mentioned I banged my fists on hard surfaces and that I damaged them. Well, over 4 months on and a doctor visit confirms I actually gave myself stress fractures. They're healing, but sometimes the pain is so bad I can't use my hands at all, and using them in general is very uncomfortable as the movement is restricted. If the fireworks didn't happen, nor would this.

5. TN21 Jen

My fiancé is an army veteran and the fireworks affect him badly. Sudden bangs and flashes are triggers for his PTSD. This 6'2" strapping man can become a wee quivering mess fearing he's back in a war zone and it doesn't just go on for one "expected" night. It's for weeks before and after 5th November. Had a dog that panted, shook and tried to get into the smallest spaces to hide.

6. Debra and Ashley

Fireworks are the bane of my life. Not only do they scare my dogs to dangerous levels of stress which hurts me to the core, but I also find them much louder and hurtful than most as I am disabled, due to Ehlers Danlos Syndrome and I am also on the Autistic Spectrum. I can't just get away from them. They go off at any hour from school's out time till after midnight, and I have no warning, so with mobility problems I find it impossible to just up and leave my house. I live in Highland Scotland and the firework problem here has gotten much worse these last few years, increasing ten-fold each year, due to kids being able to buy or get others to buy from all manner of shops where they are on display and readily available. The fireworks start two weeks before bonfire night and continue nightly till well after new year. I have torn brain arteries and also very dangerous inoperable brain aneurysms due to my Ehlers Danlos Syndrome and I am supposed to stay stress free and live quietly to survive at all. My neck and spine are collapsing and my organs are prolapsing, even despite life-long surgeries until I became too high risk for more surgery since 2008. So when because of the Aspergers, I hear those awful fireworks much much louder than most, where it actually HURTS, I simply cannot up and leave the safety of my home when they go off indiscriminately. If it were just bonfire night only, like it used to be, I could arrange help to go somewhere quiet, but actually probably, since it would just be the big city arranged event, I could happily stay in my own home safe and happy with my doggy friends who are my big support, as I am 2-3 miles from our main Bonfire night event here. I don't think anyone possibly understands this issue from a disabled Autistic perspective. My daughter also has these same issues, and I know of many others who have Autistic Spectrum Disorder or life long genetic disabling conditions, who also fear these loud bangs of horror around our own homes, which should not be like living in Beirut but should be a place of safety and sanctuary.

Thankyou for hearing us and please also hear the animals too.

7. KPC –Anon

My son has had many sleepless nights this year due to heavy duty fireworks being set off in our neighbourhood. He has ASD and is very sensitive to noise so fireworks are upsetting. He is 8 years old and for several weeks huge shell-like explosions were going off around us, leaving him visibly shaking and unable to sleep. He badly needs sleep as his behaviour and ability to cope with everyday life is severely affected by lack of sleep. These fireworks go off after his bedtime and on any day of the week, without warning. At times he has been so tired he has been crying. I would like to see category 3 fireworks limited to public displays only and all fireworks to be limited to bonfire night, the weekends either side and new year's eve. I would like their use on Diwali to be restricted.

8. Sophia

I'm not saying parts of Britain are a war zone or anything, but random fireworks going off I personally find alarming, because I have lived in various areas in London rife with gun crime and we would often hear shots. I maybe unlucky but i have been at home when a shooting happened on my street, and on another occasion a shooting happened opposite a shop i was working in. Both experiences were very frightening. Like many others, i have friends in Paris - someone I know survived Bataclan but is still walking around with shrapnel in his leg. I know we can't live in fear, but recently random fireworks have gone off in my otherwise quiet neighbourhood, not as a display but one off , random rockets. My children and I , I'm sorry to say, were scared and had a talk among ourselves to rationalize it. Given that we have ex-service people with PTSD and lots of victims of gun crime, might it not be better to confine use of fireworks to certain times of the year, do we all know where we stand?

9. KK Anon

I have complex PTSD and autism. For many reasons fireworks are very distressing to me.

Complex PTSD means that I startle easily to loud noises especially when they come out of the blue and are unexpected. Like fireworks. They make me jump and cause anxiety. Autism means that I find loud noises distressing, especially when there is no escape from them. Like fireworks. I can't wear ear plugs because my ears are too sensitive and the sound vibrates in my ears.

I have anxiety attacks when fireworks go off, which can last for hours. I fear for my pets as I have heard of animals having heart attacks or being injured.

I live in a flat and lots of different surrounding houses let them off at once for hours at a time and the sound is deafening - you would not believe how loud it was until you heard it. I fear that someone will accidentally shoot them off into our balcony or at our windows because these people are not trained and most likely have been drinking alcohol all night first. There are many elderly people and young children in our block and I fear for them being scared as well.

They don't just go off on two nights of the year, it's other times as well and around 5th November they can last for weeks.

13. Steven

Please restrict firework sales and use to a reasonable level.

I write to you to let you know how annoying and worrying it is going about my business with them firing off and they are so very loud and scary that they affect my sleep which makes me less productive in my work so potentially I could lose my job.

There will be a large section of the community that it affects as well for example the elderly, infirm, ill, ex forces, animals the list would go on, most of these people are not able to tell you and so continue to suffer in silence. Who knows what the long term effect this will have on their health which then vital funds must be spent to combat this.

If that's not enough we all have to worry about who is able to get hold of these lethal weapons without knowing their intentions or what damage they may cause, for the same reasons we don't allow random people to have guns.

All this worry created just so a few people can enjoy this anti social activity so I ask you again please restrict firework sales and use to a reasonable level.

14. LF Anon

I just wanted to share the reason for me being here. I was a lay chaplain at Kenyatta National Hospital, the largest government hospital in Kenya, during the third worst terrorism attack in Kenyan history. I saw a lot of horrific and terrible things. I have nightmares about the patients often. I scare very easily, especially when I'm not prepared for a loud sound. Fireworks are the absolute worst! I also have issues with anger. When I get scared, I get angry.

15. Toni

My daughter was hit in the face by a firework at a paid pub display. The firework went into the crowd, burn several of my neices clothing and a cousins chest. My daughter took the worst of it. We as a family went along to this display presuming we were safe and presumed there were strict guidelines. This incident was reported to Tandridge District council who investigated. My daughters face is still scared but the psychological effects for us both are worse. In the weeks around firework night we dont go out and feel trapped in our home.

My cousin and her children were in the crowd at the Whitgift centre Croydon for the turning on of the Christmas lights last year when they where burnt to there faces and clothes burnt again a public display. My elderly neighbour is terrified he is was war veteran he shakes and cant leave his home this time of year. Some thing needs to be done we should not be living in fear. The noise goes on for weeks and unless you have been a victim you would not understand the fear.

16. Adie

I have epilepsy and although am not light sensitive i am sound sensitive and certain repetitive noises set off my fits along with sleep deprivation from the fireworks going off at all hours.

17. Mr G

i visited the survey to see and found I could complete it. Husband hearing impaired and wears two digital aids but can't for the majority of the autumn/new year. He either has to grab them out of his ears when fireworks start unexpectedly near us or doesn't wear them because he doesn't want to be caught out and shocked out of his life...!

18. Janice

Saturday 28th February 20-30 mins @ 19.30-20.00 heard in OX11 8QG were being set off in Wallingford 8 miles away sounding like cannon fire or even bombing so so loud!!

19. Sheila

During the winter months I suffer with anxiety bought on by the sounds of the constant fireworks.

For me, it brings back the awful memories of back during the second world war, when my family had to hide underneath the table when the planes were going overhead. As a young child, the sounds of the bombs dropping were terrifying. I cannot being to think what the poor veterans go through with being bombarded by impromptu fireworks. At least official displays can be prepared for and enjoyed properly.

This period of time holds a lot of painful memories for me and when I hear the fireworks now, they appear to reverberate around my house, which transports me back to those very scary times of wondering if we were going to lose our family and friends, our homes or not. It was a very uncertain time in our lives which I don't wish to be reminded of.

20. Rachel

I've signed the petition and shared but it's not just pets that suffer! I have 3 dogs 2 are not bothered at all but my bitch is terrified of them she doesn't eat doesn't sleep just sits in the corner shaking, and my partner suffers from ptsd after serving 8 years in the army and 4 tours in afghan its horrible to see the effects have on both off them. He struggles just as much as my milli does! it infuriates me seeing fireworks on sale everywhere so cheaply!!!! It's about a month over the bonfire season around me it's horrific to sit and watch my partner and my sweet girl so shaken by it x

21. Angie

I suffer with a condition called Trigeminal Neuralgia (TN), a fairly rare neurological condition that is often referred to as the suicide disease due to the severity of pain.

There are several different triggers for TN attacks one of which is sudden loud noises and explosions. Knowing when there are going to be loud noises and explosions (the resonance of the explosion can add to the problem of triggers) is helpful, I can take additional medication in preparation and can keep somewhere safer to avoid the loud noise.

22. Heidi

We had an incident (a few years ago) when my husband's car was damaged by a rocket. It broke the windscreen but fortunately it did not enter the car. It left a nasty scorchmarknon the bonnet. He could not drive it.. meant our niece had to drive me home.... 75 miles. I had to get my car. Drove us home...then had to drive him back to fetch his car.

Firework Statements Human and Animal

1. BN7 Ms JM –Anon

Fire work statement. Where to start, I guess by first stating I have no issue with professional well advertised displays, I can prepare for these. I cannot however prepare for garden fireworks and those just out to create a noise by letting off bangs and all hours of the day and night at any time of year.

I have four dogs of my own and run a canine services with my husband. 2 of my dogs are firework phobic and several of the dogs I care for are also firework and sound phobic. I watch these dogs respond in several ways they all act slightly differently, my terrier who is so terrified she runs around, ears pinned back and vomiting, sadly the vomit makes it almost impossible to medicate for the fear either via our vet or holistically, she shakes uncontrollably. My elderly collie cross barks as if the world is about to end and he feels the need to protect all of us from it, he is a worry as he has epilepsy.

My clients dogs display all of the pre-mentioned as well as fear from the presumed on set of bangs just because it has become dark outside, we observe winking of the face, ears drawn back, shaking and salivating.

Some have begun to generalize and now are fearful of banging vehicle doors, people slamming the lids on dustbins and big wheelie bins, air brakes on lorries and buses the list goes on and this is not to forget that summer brings clouds and thunder storms. The stress of watching an animal in such terrible fear and distress is utterly distressing for all of us who are caring for them.

What have fireworks done to me this year... well sadly myself and my family were at the Shoreham Air show and witnessed the terrible crash of the Hawker Hunter on to the road leading to the loss of 11 lives. We have all been traumatised. I have suffered panic attacks and flash backs, I jump at loud and unexpected noise, I guess I have a form of PTSD. I can cope with planned displays but I cannot cope with kids throwing bangers in the street or the addicts a few doors away letting fireworks off from their first floor window. I cannot cope with my neighbour letting off fireworks in their tiny back garden.

Fireworks have safety instructions on them, fall out zones, distance from buildings and roads very few people will read these instructions. Fireworks on sale to the public are meant to be brought and then fired the same day, many people are storing these for days, weeks, months, either within their home or in their garden shed, this means that many people are living next door to explosives and have no idea, this scares me.

I live in Lewes the firework capital, I have been an active member of the bonfire societies and was taught by my husband simple fire working skills. I do not want to see an end to god well run events such as Lewes but I do want greater restrictions on the sale of fireworks to the public. I am tired of being afraid and watching my pets suffer in terror.

2. BS23 Ms JM –Anon

The following is my statement of how fireworks have affected me, my pets and how I personally have seen it affect others.

For me I actually am scared of the bangs, it's daft for a grown woman to find noises scared but I suffer with tinnitus and loud noises actually hurt my ears. I live in a seaside town, my home is surrounded by others homes in close proximity and during fireworks season I find the noise and the vibration from multiple homes hosting very loud and big home displays overwhelming. I suffer with anxiety and depression and find that during the season I have to get home or inside as quickly as possible, I cannot cope with being outside during any displays.

My previous dog was petrified of fireworks, even when I lived on a farm on the outskirts of the same seaside town, the sheer number of homes hosting displays at the same time was too much for her to cope with. I used supplements to help keep her

calm but she would still suffer as soon as the season changed, my confident and outgoing girl would become petrified of the dark from October to February every year. To help her cope we could never leave her alone at night, we became prisoners in our own home during the season just so we were there to look after her. We had to be very careful as the knock on effect with a stressed out dog was behavioural problems, she had a short fuse around other dogs so walks had to be carefully managed and of course timed to ensure we were home before dark. Due to a medical condition she was not a candidate for drugs, but why should I force my dog to become a spaced out zombie because selfish people had to blow up hundreds of pounds in personal home bombs. The worst moment was when a display nearby went off and as I opened the oven door to put our tea in, she rushed to climb inside the oven, it was on, it was hot and I only just stopped her.

As a care worker I have been visiting our elderly and vulnerable members of the community, some with mental health issues and having to comfort them in my brief visit and knowing that I leave them alone to cope with their fears, a fear I fully understand as I stated earlier I am scared of them myself. It is heart breaking to know that these vulnerable people have to be subjected to extremely loud fireworks for not just days, weeks or months, they are scared and stressed out the whole time.

What fun do people like this actually have?

It is not that a few are being killjoys, it is that a few are actually selfish. There is no need to have loud fireworks for home displays, no need to have these monstrosities of home bombs in general sale for anyone to buy. The big problem is home displays, general public use fireworks are random. They go off at any time, they go off on anyway with no warning, no chance for preparation by others that need to. The public might just have set times they can buy the fireworks but they certainly do not stock to setting them off during this time, nor do they adhere to the curfew time and fireworks are going off well into the early hours on any day, not just New Year's Eve.

3. CR3 Austin

We have sold our house, the house where I was born and thought I'd end my days in, built in 1926 it's only ever been in my family, we are moving to rural Wales 255 miles away to get away from the firework menace that seems to plague most towns in the UK. We are moving mainly because of noise pollution, the majority of which is caused by random excessively loud fireworks day and night at any time on any day. We also have far more traffic and general noise than we would like but the fireworks have clinched it for us. We feel let down by the current government at it's denial that fireworks cause a menace and in their misguided belief that the current laws and rules are being sufficient and are being adhered to by the majority who use fireworks.

Fireworks scare my dogs and my chickens, we have had fireworks ALL hours, nearly every night apart from a few days from the beginning of October to nearly end of December and it will go on until the first few days in January, then calms down a bit but it doesn't stop completely and it will be a regular event at weekends from March onwards. All in all, I can say from experience we have fireworks EVERY day for 9 months of the year.

I have had a hen injured this year through panic after a local golf course holding a function for a Wedding had such loud fireworks late at night and with no warning it scared my poultry and dogs beyond belief, loudest I have ever heard. Numerous complaints by dozens of locals still didn't result in any action being taken and so it continues. The hen in question had a bad leg for nearly 2 weeks after. The noise set off car alarms down our road and we are approx 1.3 miles away from that golf club, what decibel level is required to achieve that I wonder, it had our windows rattling. My dog tore up the furniture in a desperate attempt to hide. Not content with that, a month later we hit October and then the noise and frequency increases, it's the locals this time who are setting fireworks off, not the golf course. I lost 3 newly hatched Magpie ducklings (rare breed) that a broody hen had just hatched out, the

hen was so scared she either knocked the ducklings out of the nest at night or they fled in panic at the noise, 2 died of the cold and 1 she pecked to death the next morning, I put this down to the sheer volume and frequency of Halloween fireworks going off all round here, hours on end from before dark until 1.25 am the next morning. It's utterly heartbreaking to see my pets absolutely terrified and know there's nothing I can do to stop it. We have got and tried all the remedies for the dogs,

sedation, rescue remedy and herbal calmers, plug in diffusers, anxiety wraps, desensitizing cd's, turning the tv up loud, ignoring the dogs, you name it, we have used it, it might take the edge off but will not stop the fear completely.

This year we saw a dramatic increase in volume, frequency of fireworks and how much more scared our pets are getting to the point where they won't go outside at all after dark and sometimes during the day too. My hens weren't scared of noises 3 years ago, they are now, out of my 3 dogs, 1 is terrified, 1 is becoming scared and has started hiding and 1 luckily isn't bothered, at the moment. It's not only my pets and livestock that fear fireworks it upsets my Mum too who lived through the Blitz here near the Kenley WW2 airfield in 1940 which the loud fireworks remind her of, as a child of 6 years of age on her way home from school she was chased down the road by a Messerschmitt 109 and shot at, bullets hitting the road behind her as she ran, to her, that's where firework noise takes her. As I write this at 6.03 pm fireworks have started up (29-12-15) outside which have sent one of my dogs running for cover YET again.

4. CV12 Linda

Firework Misery For a number of years now from about the middle of October till sometime in January I have a curfew. I have to be home by dusk because of fireworks upsetting my dogs and cat. My neighbours are not animal lovers so if the dogs bark because they are scared it causes problems. So I can't go out socialising over Christmas and New Year, my partners birthday is November 7th another celebration that can't be enjoyed. The dogs refuse to go in the garden when it gets dark sometimes because just when you think it's safe another deafening barrage goes off. The thing is though these aren't even in my street and even with the TV, CD player and radio on at strategic points these bombs can still be heard. Why should I and a great many others be subjected to this. It's cruel to not just domestic pets but those in fields and the wild. Everyone that you speak to with animals or not are fed up of it. Please do something about the noise level and restrict sales to the public so that only a few days a year are marked. With the current situation re terrorists should we need to wonder is it fireworks or an attack? Think of the elderly and more vulnerable amongst us. There are quiet pretty fireworks to be had these should be the only ones used. Because of several conditions the winter months are a nightmare for me health wise anyway without the stress of fireworks adding to it. At the moment my fibromyalgia is having a surge and in addition Vertigo has returned. I have also just had a ultra sound on my abdomen because of pain. Most of this has been brought on since October the start of "silly season" aka firework hell. I live on my own and my mobility is affected severely at this time of the year. Seeing my dogs upset and not been able go out and enjoy a normal life because of fireworks being let off anytime any place is not how I want to spend the rest of my winters. There is no reason for fireworks to be used this way

5. HU5 Mark

I have suffered with ME/CFS for at least 3 years and it has caused a web of physical and mental problems, including a compromised nervous system, which has left me increasingly sensitive to noise, especially when from unnecessary and thoughtless sources.

In relation to fireworks this year they commenced on 31st October and lasted for 8 nights (HU5). For the first 3 nights I held myself together as best I could and tried to deal with it all, but by night 4 I was completely struggling. My evenings were consumed by near constant firework noise, which penetrated my walls, roof and windows. I even had to endure them between 10pm & 1am... making me angry in bed, when I was supposed to be resting!

I was unable to watch any TV that week, unable to read, unable to hold a conversation with my lodger or anyone on the phone. I literally had to sit there and endure it all for 6 hours per evening, with no ability to concentrate on ANYTHING, due to overwhelming (negative) emotional responses like anger, frustration, irritability, annoyance and anxiety. It all 'consumed' me, like I was in some kind of trance!

I used to have a cat who was terrified of fireworks. She would scurry around from room to room trying to 'hide'. It was awful to see, and the stress transferred to me, which I completely absorbed being in a compromised state of health. During the last 2 years of her life I used to sit with her in the (internal) hallway cupboard, with the door closed, so she was exposed to less noise, with it having no external walls or windows. Why should people have to go to these measures, especially on multiple evenings because

people can't stick to the official date?

Some things we have to put up with as a society, but fireworks are a totally unnecessary evil! 120db is way too high.

6. LU3 DH – Anon

They affect me quite severely, I have rare neurological disease with high risk of coma, the pets too, we have to turn the telly up, reassure them etc to try calm them, Inc the bird as she now flinches even when someone enters the room.

I'm not good at explaining hun. Sorry. ThT one affect of my attacks being constant. The pets can't go out until we are satisfied they stopped incase something happens

7. NE37 Wendy

8 Nov 2015 this is my 90 yr old mothers rescue dog lying terrified in a makeshift tent after paying £35 for a thunder jacket that still didn't calm her nerves This time of year brings fear and misery to my family my mother has Alzheimer's and the dog is her companion and her comfort I not only have weeks of dealing with an anxious terrified dog but an equally confused frightened old lady who thinks people are banging on her door when it is fireworks Please put a stop to fireworks they are not an important part of life what is the argument for them apart from money. 12/11/15 rubbish left from fireworks set off in public place housing estate

8. RG22 Emma

As part of this campaign I was asked to write a personal statement around my experience living through fireworks for weeks on end and how it has affected me, my family and my pets. This is what I wrote:

We have lived in our house for 4 1/2 years now and even before we had our son, fireworks had never been an issue here. Yes, we had a few on bonfire night and at new years but those are understandable and sometimes (if early enough) can be enjoyable. We had no issues last year, I remember as my son was only 11 months in November and I worried they would wake him but it was very very quiet. This year I had just assumed it would be the same.....but then Halloween came. We celebrated with a little party for Jake's friends (aged 1-3) and enjoyed trick or treaters coming until 8pm. Then it went quiet so we thought it was safe to put him to bed (we kept him up later to ensure no one would wake him). We were wrong and that was the start of a nightmare that continued almost every night for about 3/4 weeks. The loud bangs would wake my son, have him screaming and constantly saying the word bang all day and night. He didn't understand it and he worried about them happening. My dog is 13 years old, a border terrier. She has always been a little worried about fireworks but never to the extent that we have seen this year. She literally could not stop shaking for nights on end and I was in tears thinking she could have a heart attack at any time. It got to the point where I knew enough was enough so I rang the vets for advice. I went up and was shown so many different products, I couldn't believe what they could offer, proving what issues other pet owners face nowadays. We spent £15 of our money that we are in desperate need of for more important things, on sedating type products to help calm my poor old girl, let her sleep and rest. I was devastated having to feed her the calming stuff and I worried further that it may affect her too much and her heart at such an old age. We also bought rescue remedy as she was so worked up she needed something extra. Now why should I have to spend out money that could go on a food shop to sedate my dog, which I don't want to do all because people are becoming so inconsiderate?!!! My upset turned to anger over the coming weeks and at times I felt I was losing it and it caused arguments between myself and my husband. My boy was waking, he was scared, he was tired, we then became tired as we weren't getting a break and then when we did get into bed we couldn't sleep due to the loud bangs going off at all times of night. My dog would be shaking, my cat hid under the bed and I would lie there waiting for my son to wake up screaming again. Once that horrendous period was over my household returned to the happy place it usually is. I forgot how bad it got but I was being lured into a false sense of serenity.....xmas eve arrived and off we go again. My son's birthday is xmas day. We had a busy couple of days celebrating, seeing family and preparing. He went to bed xmas eve and me and my husband excitedly began wrapping, building things, decorating the room etc. We were up to our necks in presents when at 9:30pm great big bangs erupted very close to our home. I leapt off the sofa

it was that loud and then Jake woke screaming. The night before his birthday, when he should be tucked up in bed asleep looking forward to his day and he was crying his little eyes out. As I held him and calmed him it all got too much for me and I just sat there crying my eyes out with him. How dare these people be so selfish, how dare they make my son cry like that and how dare they ruin our xmas eve which should be happy and peaceful. How many children do you think were in bed sleeping hoping that when they woke father xmas would have been, and how many would have been woken crying because of scary loud bangs late at night?! The average time for a young child to go to bed is 7-8pm. Why on earth do people think its ok to set these off after 9pm? Then xmas day comes....xmas day!!!! Yesthats right we now celebrate with fireworks don't you know! So at 4pm my poor dog is terrified and shaking and cowering just as family have come over to celebrate my son's birthday. Instead of focussing on him and his day I am now trying to settle my dog and calm her down (I refused to sedate her on xmas day, it's not fair on her). But just xmas isn't enough, oh no when I am utterly exhausted I have to lay in bed listening to yet another inconsiderate person let them off at 10pm on the 27th. I have put up with the noise, the scared pets and baby since 31st October and I am sure there are many more to come. I have heard them go off at 3pm, 9pm, 10pm and even at 1am. When you have no idea when they are going to happen you cannot prepare for them, you don't know how long it will last and you don't risk leaving your home for fear of losing your pet. The stress, upset, anger, tears and despair has all affected me over the last few months to such a degree that I have asked my husband if we can move next year (out of the house we said would be our forever home) because if next year becomes worse I really do not think we will be able to handle it. The firework restriction needs to be brought in as soon as possible to help people live happier and more peaceful lives during these festivities

9. RH10 Tracy

So bonfire night is ONE day, remember, remember the 5th of November, it is now 11th November and fireworks are still being let off, next is Diwali which will mean more. With plenty more odd bangs and cracks going off where "kids" have managed to get hold of them and are letting them off (hubby saw this the other night first hand!) They not only affect the thousands of animals around the country, which then affects the whole family watching their poor defenseless pets being petrified or worse and not to mention all those animals that don't have the comfort of a loving home, but also has a large impact on the very young/not so young and the many, many men and women that have been in a war zone or conflict and the poor survivors of terrorist attacks, I could go on..... BAN them from being sold to the public, STOP supermarkets etc from selling them and limit the public displays to one weekend, surely that is enough for everybody!!!!

10. S45 Jenny

For the past 11 years I have dreaded my neighbours having their fireworks as it terrifies my cats. I find it heart breaking having to watch them being frightened by the loud bangs, sizzles and squealing fireworks they let off. He climbs the curtains and bites and scratches at the door in his panic to get out of the house, some times I have been reduced to tears as I just wanted the bangs to stop and I felt so helpless to be able to do anything about them. I wanted to protect my pets from the suffering they were experiencing and I could do nothing except try to calm them with calming tablets, which did help a little. My cats, one in particular remains traumatized for days afterwards he walks around outside with his head looking up in the air for fireworks going up and is very jumpy and anxious at the slightest noise. He will just start to settle down after a few days when some idiot will let off a banger, and I want to cry because I can't stand to have my pets frightened like this. I want to get hold of who ever has let off the firework and shake them by the throat and scream at them to BLOODY STOP IT. I was relieved from my neighbours fireworks this year as their children weren't bothered about having any, Thank God for that!! It also upsets my mother who is 87 as she doesn't like to see the cats in distress with the fireworks going off, and she worries about other people's pets that are being frightened by them. I also worry about all the birds and wildlife that are frightened by the fireworks, all in all the three months of firework hell is very upsetting and stressful for me.

11. SK13 Barbara

My name is Barbara Cadogan and I live in the SK13 area of NW UK. I am 66 and had two cats. One was put to sleep end of November. This year has been the worst for fireworks. They started on Halloween and lasted until New Year. Some were let off in daylight! My cat who was suffering from heart failure spent the last few weeks of his life in fear crawling around on his belly and hiding under my bed. I have not been well myself and this situation put me under a lot of stress. My Tesco delivery

man told me he was stopped at traffic lights in Hyde Cheshire and thugs of around 16/18 fired a rocket at his windscreen and it also hit the car next to him. Needless to say he was very shocked by the situation. He called the police and all they did was give him an incident number. He also reported it to his employer. My neighbour is a community nurse and has also had fireworks aimed at her. My daughter had the same outside her Uni in Salford. For safety's sake the sale of fireworks should be stopped to the public because they are dangerous weapons and it has increased. It has affected my life badly past two years and the lives of others especially pet owners. Stop the sale of fireworks to the public now

12. M6 KM –Anon

I live in Sutton south London, and every night since new year someone has been letting off fireworks. They only let two or three off, but every night since new year? It is a nuisance, I suffer with PTSD and I have a Staffordshire bull terrier who panics and tries to dig his way out of the house every time it happens. It takes three or four hours to calm him down, but I am wound up for the rest of the night and the next day knowing what's going to happen later in the evening. ...The police and local council are not interested as they say by the time they get out it will have stopped so they cant catch the people letting them off. And they cant sit out in the housing estate all night just in case someone lets a firework off. Its now got to the point where it is affecting my work and my relationship with my wife and family as I am constantly losing my temper and feel like I am being made to suffer because the local authority won't act. I am reaching breaking point all because if some idiots who find it funny to let a couple of fireworks off on a whim.

13. SN3 JW –Anon

I'm disabled myself with a condition known as Postural Orthostatic Tachycardia Syncope; basically I become unconscious regularly. My dog is trained to arouse me if I become unconscious. When my dog is this upset, it means that she isn't really focused to do her job. She is not a certified assistance dog but she does the job of one by making sure I do wake from my unconscious spells - she gets help from others in the household if she struggles to arouse me. When she is upset like this, it is not only bad for her as she is deeply upset but could seriously impact on my health too as I rely on her to awake me so much!

I usually play her bonfire works c.d on days I know when bonfire works will occur - the weekend before, the week of and weekend after bonfire night. Christmas and new year. Obviously, you wouldn't expect them on dates like 24th of Jan, so her c.d was not playing. Maybe something like the queens birthday you'd make an exception for or other celebratory dates... but you can't play the c.d every single day just in case bonfire works may happen. My dog was very traumatised last night and spent about 3 hours hiding under the bed as this is her safe place... she wouldn't even snap out of it for her favourite toy or dog treat (being a labrador x she is rather food obsessed) so for her to refuse food is kind of unheard of!

14. SR8 Siobhan

I have anxiety. Often it is caused by extreme loud bangs Fireworks mean I can't leave the house what so ever I panic, I have to hide under my duvet and take relaxants. I often do not sleep either as I'm afraid my house might get set on fire by them. It affects my cats too. They hide and are scared half to death. They hide all day and night especially around bonfire night.

They're the worst things ever imaginable and they ruin lives like mine

15. MsMF Anon

My/our experience: I am carer for my neighbour Paul since his heart attack Oct 2014. He lives alone with his 13 year old rescue dog Charlie. Every day we three go to the park to exercise Charlie; this is also a very important part of Paul's cardiac recovery. Firework season is extremely stressful for Charlie, who pants, trembles, drools and scrambles to find a safe place. It can take hours for him to calm afterwards 2 - 3am. Paul loses sleep too. The vet prescribed Zylkene for Charlie, and we tried a ThunderShirt this year. Perhaps of some help? Paul is on benefits so income is limited. I help where I can. Firework

explosions add to general stress for Paul, especially since health has been challenged. Evening walks are impossible for the duration (2 -3 weeks). We live in South Harrow with a large Asian population and big Diwali celebrations. We had Charlie here with us for one evening when Paul had to go out. Very distressing. My partner and I both pleaded with (new) neighbours to stop letting off loud explosive fireworks in adjacent garden. When they continued, my partner became very angry and shouted at them. I felt distraught and helpless, trying to keep Charlie calm... My heart goes out to all beings affected. Attached 2 pictures are from fireworks 2014, Charlie trying to find shelter from the din. And this summer in the park ... his usual carefree self.

16. Karen

When hare gets upset with the fireworks It not only upsets myself because there seems to be nothing that help ease her suffering, but it also makes my 13 year old autistic son distressed ,he doesnt understand why she is climbing the walls, wimpering trying to hide anywhere and everywhere, The weeks leading up to nov 5th and afterwards mean he doesnt sleep well with all the bangs normally but hares distress makes matters worse. My daughter age 10 understands better but it make her upset as well.

17. WS Anon

I am absolutely terrified of fireworks. I never used to be but gradually over the years the fireworks have got louder and louder to the point where it feels like we are in a war zone plus we cannot plan for it. I dread each day between October and December and spend hours worrying myself sick about when we are going to be subjected to this curse because that is what it feels like to me – a curse. It used to be just November 5th, then it became November 5th and Diwarli with a small amount on New Years Eve but now it seems like right from October to end December we are bombarded by these things on a daily basis never knowing when someone will let them off. New Years Eve was ruined for me because about 8pm the most horrendous noise started which continued until 1am in the morning. I was in tears. I have 7 cats – they are terrified of them. They are not good for the environment, they frighten old people and war veterans, no body ever thinks of field and wild animals and how terrified they are and what damage can be caused. If it was up to me I would ban them completely but I realise this is impossible so am asking for a ban on fireworks being sold to the general public, stop greedy supermarkets from selling them at all and restricting the use of public displays to a few days in the year only which would be made public. I also ask if the noise levels in fireworks could be reduced – they certainly never were this loud. It seems to be all about noise now and they are a noise nuisance. I also feel that they breach all Health and Safety rules especially in these days of terrorism. If fireworks were banned and kept to public displays only (which also should be regulated) people would soon get used to it and it would stop the yobbos using these fireworks to upset and terrorise people.

18. Sarah

Summary of what happened On the 4th of November in broad daylight my daughter aged 11 her friend 14 and an adult from our yard in shiney Rowe were riding along hunter street in shiney row on there pony's when sum one decided it would be a good idea to throw a firework at them of course as quiet as the pony's are they spooked causing them to bolt which ended up in the adult been thrown from her horse luckily the 2 children managed to stay on there pony's and bring them to a stop with help from a couple of local residents the children did manage to get off just in time before the horses took flight again causing them to run into a main rd not only leaving my daughter and friends shaking and scared they endangered the lives of these girls and others we did have to have an ambulance called to treat minor injuries and police were informed

19. Samantha

From a personal point of view, I have two rescue cats, and a horse. Both cats have recovered well from the abuse received in their previous lives, but no longer feel safe outdoors, and are now house cats. Despite being in the safety of their home, whenever fireworks are being released (and they do not have to be in the direct vicinity) they become stressed. One runs in sheer panic, and will find the smallest hiding place she can – it can be hours after the fireworks have finished before she calms down, and feels safe enough to tentatively come out of her hiding place. The other freezes, and will allow us to hold him tight while trying to comfort him and calm him. Their terror is so extreme that they have hurt themselves, running into closed doors etc in their attempts to escape. The other fear is the risk of heart attacks. Other measures we have to take

whenever fireworks are being released is ensuring that we have the TV or radio on (at a high volume to try and cover the sounds of blasts) at all times of day – this does not make us popular with our neighbours, but they at least understand the reason. Their understanding starts to wear thin when this is continual for weeks at a time due to the extended periods people release fireworks, purely because they can. My husband and I both start to believe our hearing is being affected as a result too. We also rethink any plans that we have from early October onwards, until well into the New Year – if we don't have to go out, then we don't – our lives are pretty much on hold every time there is a period of fireworks. All the work of the last 5 years rehabilitating them both from their traumas is undone during this period – the only solace we can take is that they look to us for care and comfort during these periods. It is heart wrenching every time we witness how quickly their fear and terror can return, and how much they now rely on us to make them feel safe and secure and loved. Whilst this may seem an extreme reaction, and these are only cats – we are responsible for their care and wellbeing, both physically and emotionally. Would a parent leave a distressed child with no comfort or attempts to alleviate the impact of the terror?

With regards to my horse – there is always a decision to be made. Which is safer, keeping her in her stable, at risk of kicking out/rearing and breaking her limbs or leave her in a field, and run the risk of her running into the fencing/trees or escaping out into the road and be at risk from harm. There is sadly no right decision here – each firework leaves her at risk. Even worse is the risk to me or anyone around me should a firework be released during daylight hours (which does happen, as children do get hold of fireworks despite the laws) – if I'm riding her on the roads or bridlepaths then it leaves me at risk of serious, life changing or even fatal injury, as well as her wellbeing and other road users being at danger. Whilst she is as rock solid as they come, even she reacts, and there are times when I have to put my safety first, and so she does not get ridden on these days – she is either lunged or given the day off. I am not a brave rider, so during the 'firework season' she gets less ridden work than she should get, which is not good.

One other point to add, is that despite this Petition being worded with regards to animals, there are numerous health issues that are aggravated by fireworks. Both my husband and I suffer from asthma, and we are both affected by the smoke from fireworks. In the current situation, we can almost guarantee that one or both of us is at risk of an asthma attack – the result of which could be an ambulance needing to be called, a trip to A&E, and at the very worst one of us could become part of the death statistics for asthma related deaths. We do our best to manage our asthma, and so far, whilst having attacks, we have managed to control them with no further need for help. . It would be far better for us to feel safer in the knowledge that we can venture out of our house after a defined timescale, where fireworks are no longer permitted.

20. DR Anon

About 3 Bonfire Nights ago, I was walking my Great Dane during daylight hours (around 4pm) on a footpath when we came across some children and adults with sparklers in a paddock adjacent to the path. We passed without incident, however when we were about 20 metres on (and when the footpath was very close to joining a road) the group let off some fireworks. My Great Dane was completely spooked and tried to run away, almost dragging me in front of a car. I maintain to this day it was done on purpose, as I see no reason why you would set off fireworks in daylight as they can hardly be seen? Unfortunately, I couldn't report this as no laws were broken - the law allows fireworks during daylight hours (why?) and the fireworks were let off on private property. Since this incident, my dog now shivers and shakes indoors at the sound of fireworks (and gunshots during shooting season, as we live in a semi rural location), stressed enough that he has to go hide in a dark tight corner. Not easy for a Great Dane!

I also have horses. One cannot be stabled during loud fireworks due to injuring himself by trying to escape his stable one year and therefore being a risk to himself - and the public if he were to become loose. Instead, I have to ensure they are out in the field, however my other horse was injured trying to escape the field due to prolonged fireworks (they are kept at home on 10 acres, but still far too close to neighbouring properties for the firework noise level that is deemed acceptable by law). They will actually stand and watch fireworks if they are relatively quiet, but consistently repeating and echoing bangs cause the horses to want to take flight as is their nature. As they can't flee due to being fenced in, they will do almost anything to get away including put themselves in danger - which culminated in my horse trying to jump out of the field but getting his back legs caught halfway over on the fence.

I suffer from severe anxiety and depression. Because of the stress my animals are under, I now abhor fireworks when I used

to love them. I find it difficult, sometimes impossible, to leave the house for over firework season (especially during hours of darkness) for fear and anxiety over what may happen with my animals if I leave them alone - not just for them, but for fears of public safety if they were to get out into public spaces. This inevitably leads to a worsening of my depression at this time of year, resulting in higher dosage of my medication in order to cope. During this last Bonfire period, I found myself constantly in tears for almost a week and unable to leave the house, even during daylight hours. What should be an enjoyable family period is torture because I have no control over when fireworks will go off, for how long, or how often - for at least an entire month around Bonfire Night!

I personally would prefer that:

1) The decibel level of fireworks (private and public) were reduced - far fewer animals would initiate the fear flight response and it would not affect the enjoyment of fireworks by humans at all

2) Fireworks were only allowed during hours of darkness until 11pm, not from 7am daylight hours 3) A shorter range of dates be available for private fireworks displays, rather than just a limit on when they are sold.

21. Coral

By family, I am also including the family pets as every living creature in our house is regarded as family!

Let us start with the eldest generation in the family, my mother. My mother was brought up in London during the war and as a child was subjected to the terrifying sights and sounds that took place during those years. When fireworks are prevalent she is immediately transported back to those times, sounds, smells and sights. In fact she relives it over again..and again. In her latter years I feel she should be able to live a peaceful existence with happy memories, not dread. Move to a more rural area I hear you say. Well she lived in rural Staffordshire and it is bad enough there. God knows what city living would do!

If it is that bad for her I am sure there are plenty of other of her generation and also those of younger years who have experienced the trauma of war and are similarly affected by the loud bangs and flashes. Of course today they call it post traumatic stress disorder and for some there is therapy which may or may not work for some, the older generation just had to 'live with it' and still are!!

I now turn my attention to the family pets. My dogs are mildly irritated by the noise. By 'the noise' I mean the constant barrage of bangs, flashes and ground shuddering blasts that are a nightly occurrence from two weeks before Bonfire Night (notice the 'night' bit) and a week into January. Yes I am aware there are date and time restrictions on the use of these potentially lethal weapons but sorry guys, I hate to say it but the news hasn't filtered through!!

Like I say, my dogs are mildly irritated, they bark a lot, they annoy the neighbours...as does the multi decibel volume on the television whilst I try to drown it out (sadly we don't have the same taste in TV programmes. I did once try a touch of opera thinking it would have a calming effect but she just banged on the wall. As opera doesn't have that kind of underlying beat it ruined the whole effect.

My mother's dog on the other hand is completely terrified. My mother has often spoken about how she cannot calm her down and how problematic she becomes. Her year they came to stay with me thinking she might be calmer amid my pack. This year I witness the pacing, the fur tearing, the whining and ultimately the fear aggression that the distress caused. Every possible 'aid' has been tried..and failed and some of these are quite costly.

Now, I am not a party pooper, I don't expect the world to dance to my tune by I do think compromise has a lot going for it... We know we can expect fireworks on certain nights of the year and that is great for those who enjoy them and we can prepare.. it is the element of surprise (or maybe not so these days) of the days in between. The randomness of the onslaught is both stressful and inconvenient for all concerned. It affects social interaction in that none of us feel able to leave the house of an evening during this extended period for fear of what we might meet when we return. My mother has returned to a chewed kitchen door. Faeces and urine and vomit which are all fear induced reactions from a perfectly normally and well

behaved dog the rest of the year.

Please consider more restrictions or better policing on times, availability and usage. Consider legislation on reducing the deafeningly, window rattlingly loud bangs which are so not necessary. It is after all, the colourful display that firework lovers covert right??

22. Dr A

This morning I signed the petition to limit the use of fireworks in the UK. While I recognize that people enjoy the spectacle, and with it comes the noise, I also recognize the detrimental effect particularly of the loud bangs.

I've read the government's response to the petition and all I can say is that they should come to my house during the curfew periods and all those days that people aren't supposed to use fireworks.

The period 15 October to 10 November -- the 'traditional firework periods of Bonfire Night' -- is an absolute nightmare to many of us. Often people focus on 5 November but begin their celebrations early in October and continue until late November. Last 5 November people stopped firing off the noise makers at midnight only to start again at 1.00am for another couple of hours. Throughout the period curfews were frequently ignored -- indeed, I doubt very seriously that those using the fireworks even knew there were curfews.

Our local fireworks shop encourages people to use fireworks all year long by advertising their wares as not just for holidays but also for birthdays, anniversaries and any special occasion. Apparently people are finding all sorts of occasions to use them, including one night last week (Wednesday, 3 February) when they started shooting them off at 7.00pm and continued off and on for an hour.

Some shops may restrict when people can purchase fireworks, but that doesn't stop people from keeping them on hand and using them whenever they wish.

The impact of this is not only to animals (and yes, I do have dogs, one of which is particularly tortured by the sound), but also to people who are sensitive to loud noises and many of us who have to live with fireworks until all hours of the night and then go to work the next day. In my case, because of a chronic illness I have to be in bed by 9.30pm, and fireworks going off until the government's 11.00pm curfew on weekdays sometimes for days or weeks at a time makes sleep impossible and work difficult. Worse are people with PTSD and other illnesses for which such loud noises are traumatic.

An additional problem is that no one can plan when the noise is going to start or end. Since people shoot off fireworks whenever they choose, those who find the noise problematic are at their mercy. And trying to determine who is shooting them off in order, perhaps, to ask them nicely not to, is impossible since the noise reverberates off walls -- there's no way to find out who it is.

I don't want to spoil people's fun, but limiting fireworks to official displays would be a great help to many

23. S.W

Every time we are subjected to random fireworks locally the effect on our home and family can be quite traumatic. We have an Autistic son who gets very distressed when there are unexpected fireworks, if we know to expect fireworks we can warn him in advance so he is better prepared and then he is less traumatised. Our dog gets distressed, possibly because she picks up on the anxiety/distress of our son. We also have horses who are kept locally, but not at our property, in the past I have had fireworks being set off over the top of the field where my horses are kept, which for them was obviously terrifying and led to leg injuries which I was fortunate turned out to not be serious, another time I might not be so lucky, there is also the possibility that being flight animals they could panic and break out of their field which could be extremely dangerous if they were to end up on the roads. If I know to expect fireworks I can arrange enough cover to monitor the horses and also deal with the trauma at home.

24. Lesley

I am writing you this statement so it will hopefully help your campaign, my eldest German shepherd used to be absolutely terrified of these horrible things, there was no pacifying him, we tried all sorts, spent endless amount of money to no avail. Not only was my dog frightened of fireworks but any loud noises really. Which brings it to me, I get very jumpy at loud noises, whilst I'm out the slightest noise makes me jump, I as well as my dog hate fireworks. So the sooner they are restricted the better. It's the not knowing when they are going to be let off, I think that's the worst part. If they were restricted then at least we can prepare ourselves.

25. Heidi

Stanley is a dog that I have had as a puppy, we bred him. He is a gundog so in theory should be fine with fireworks.

We noticed in the year 2014 that Stanley had suddenly become scared of the noise created by fireworks. He would hear any fireworks before we did, so it started with noises that were not all that close.

His symptoms are shaking, panting, restlessness and shaking uncontrollably. The trembling is particularly disturbing.

During that year particular season I was ill prepared for treating Stanley but did have some valerian and skullcap which is supposed to be a herbal sedative. This has no effect whatsoever.

Roll on to Christmas 2014/New Year 2015, I had by now had the chance to buy a DAP collar. This is a pheromone based product. Which is meant to simulate the same soothing smells that the mother dog releases when she has her puppies, so is meant to represent a safe and reassuring environment. Sadly....this product made no difference either. (even though I continued with the herbal remedy).

August 2015 (National Firework Competition The Hoe, Plymouth).

Having now done a lot of investigative work on a variety of treatments that can help an animal suffering with anxiety and stress caused by the unpredictable banging I now have a situation that is "managed" . Stanley wears a thunder shirt, has calming spray and sedatives. "Manage" is all we do. By this I mean, I now sedate Stanley from 4pm onwards every evening that the fireworks can be predicted. However sedating Stanley for an 8hr period every day for a solid two week time during November, on top of this Stanley is also sedated for the fireworks that I cannot predict. This means we are playing catch up with any remedies we give him. The frustration of not knowing when fireworks might go off is that I find my dog distressed, I give him the medication that works, you then might not get another firework for three hours as these are not part of a display. So this could result in Stanley being sedated all evening on the basis of a couple of fireworks.

If fireworks are permitted to only a few specified festivals and authorised displays this gives me the chance to medicate Stanley appropriately rather than dosing him up just in case the first firework is the start of an entire evening of fireworks.

The problem most definitely lies with the unpredictability of fireworks. Planning is the key in controlling the anxiety.

I was a veterinary nurse and have dealt with, first hand, traumatised animals that require sedating, or first aid from injuries. The effects of animals can lead to such distress for them. They can be salivating profusely, pacing, shaking and petrified.

This can result in the “fight or flight” syndrome. The flight obviously is the worst thing a dog can do as this can then result in injuries of a high magnitude. (running into barbed wire fences or into traffic amongst the most common injuries caused by “flight”).

PERSONAL ANXIETY -

Heidi

On a personal level, I too suffer from a certain amount of anxiety caused by the fireworks. Mine is not controlled by fear (any animals anxiety from fireworks is the fear of the unknown and unexplained). But my issue with loud noises is more due to my medical condition of fibromyalgia.

Fibromyalgia causes noise sensitivity. Any noise can bring about anxiety, resulting in tension. As I am able to understand what the noise is, the noise does not create fear anxiety. It does however cause periods of stress as I have heightened emotional responses to noise so it can feel like I am being hit about the head repeatedly until the noise settles. I can become quite jumpy, literally jumping out of my skin at sudden noises. This is a problem I have to live with, any noise can create a reaction for me so obviously I cannot spend my life wrapped up in cotton wool or permanently on drugs.

26 Katie

My reasons for signing this firework petition are simple really. I have never really liked fireworks, I was the kid that was screaming and holding my daddy’s hand begging him to take me home, as they were too loud. I was the one who dreaded November 5th as I knew it would scare me. When I got to 18 years old I was diagnosed with dyspraxia, one of the odd features that this conditions has is that a lot of sufferers also have Hyper-sensitive hearing. Noise aggravates me. I don’t like loud music. I don’t like noisy TV’s I just don’t like noise. My husband always says that I could hear a mouse fart which is probably right. Three years ago we decided to get a dog. We are now the proud owners of a 10 year old Lurcher called Tara. We got her out of rescue and she is a delight to have around. The only problem is that she doesn’t have the flight side of a nature. – If she gets nervous she only knows how to fight. She is a reactive dog (When she see’s other dogs) she is getting better. Now there is really 3 things that make her bark. They are:- Cats Fireworks Window Cleaners. Obviously cats will always avoid Tara. Window cleaners come round once a month on a Saturday so we are prepared. And then there is fireworks. From when the clocks go back until they go forward again it is potentially the firework season. The dark nights can drag the most sensible people out into their gardens to let fireworks off. This causes massive amounts of stress in this house. I am annoyed because of the noise and then Tara will hear them and start panting, walking around and she is obviously stressed. If you let her in the garden and a firework goes off she runs round and round barking and acting like a loony. The only time she is calm when she comes in the front room and lays on either my husband or me, but, if another firework goes off it all happens again. We never go out at night during the winter months, as we never know when Fireworks will be set off and therefore we never know whether Tara will be upset. It is disappointing when it is my birthday November 14th we used to go out and have a meal and then go for a drink. We managed to get somebody to sit with Tara last year and so we went out for a meal. Then we came straight back so that the dog sitter could go out. I always look forward to spring, the flowers are beautiful and best of all the clocks go forward and the firework season is over. This has to work so that people like me who suffer with fireworks can at least know when they are going to happen and dogs like Tara will not get stressed. We don’t have to sit in all winter “just in case” Thank you for reading this.

27. Pete

As a child, I always looked forward to having a few fireworks on firework night, aka bonfire / Guy Fawkes night etc.

Our fireworks didn’t impact on any farm animals , in fact, the local farmer used to build us a bonfire from hedge cuttings and allow us to have our fireworks on his land. back then, bonfire night was on the 5th November , or a day or so either side if the weather was bad on the 5th. At the most, there would be fireworks on 4 or 5 nights of the year.

We had a dog that was scared of gunshots, thunder and fireworks, but she never went into a blind panic for 3 months of the year because of fireworks.

If she heard any , she might hide under the sideboard for 30 minutes shaking, but soon recovered.

Compare those few days of reasonably quiet fireworks with the situation that we've had to endure since the millennium , nowadays, Firework night has become firework season and the use of fireworks to celebrate any number of things , seems to be on the increase, as does the volume of the fireworks themselves.

I heed the advice of the RSPCA and keep my dog indoors when I am expecting fireworks , but it's almost impossible to block the noise of them these days, because they are so loud, maybe they are a maximum of 120 decibels, but a rocket exploding over your house at 120 DB makes a very scary bang for anyone suffering from anxiety disorders and animals are particularly badly affected.

Mine is, and it takes 3 or 4 hours to settle him down

People these days just don't seem to care about the stress that they cause people and animals , as long as they can have their fireworks at all times of the evening or night and the louder the better it would seem.

Fireworks badly affect my dog and from the first night that he hears them, he is on edge listening every night , if he hears any on following nights, his stress gets worse each time, until, by Christmas, he only has to hear a car go over the traffic bump outside my house and he starts panting and shaking.

This also has an adverse affect on my health, I suffer from several conditions, most of which are made worse by stress, so every autumn, I can look forward to 3 months of feeling worse than I do for the rest of the year. My Crohns disease usually fares up, as does my Ankylosing Spondylitis. So 20 minutes of enjoyment for each family firework party adds up to 3 months of feeling even worse than I do through the year during my bad periods.

And then we have the anti social fireworks, when I was young, the bad yob kids used to put bangers in peoples dustbins or throw one onto their lawn, of course, they weren't very loud and didn't cause much nuisance. However, the fireworks available to the public today can and have, blown up things such as phone boxes and have destroyed wheelie bins. How long is it going to be before some amateur " terrorist" starts using these big fireworks to try to kill and maim people?

A friend of mine has to have a permit, plus secure locked storage facilities, to buy black powder (gunpowder) for his muzzle loading musket, yet anyone over the age of 18 can buy and posses these dangerous explosives which are supposed to be garden fireworks.

Do I want to see all fireworks banned ? No I don't.

Do I want a ban on these massive and loud cat 3 fireworks sold to the public? yes I do , they are anti social and potentially lethal.

I'd like to see organised displays only , they are safer, everyone knows when they are, so can take action to be out of the area during the display .

Failing that, I'd like to see quieter fireworks on sale for a shorter period , with a maximum of ten celebration dates per year.

Fireworks on new years eve hasn't been with us for many years, I believe that it started at the millennium celebrations , since then , the new years eve celebrations have spread to any night between Christmas night and the night before everyone returns to work , this really is unacceptable and ruins many peoples Christmas and new years celebrations.

I haven't been out on a new years eve for quite a number of years, purely because I daren't leave my dog home alone for fear of fireworks scaring him .

In fact, I don't go out after dark from the date that fireworks go on sale in October, to after new year, just in case someone decides to have a firework party within a mile of my house, such is the volume of airborne 120 db fireworks .

I sincerely hope that the government listens to the stories of how fireworks affect a significant part of the population. Only a minority actually use fireworks, but the impact on people and animals lives is widespread.

28. Michelle

I'm writing personal statement in regards to how fireworks affect both myself and my dogs.

I suffer with many health conditions one that effects both my breathing and my lungs and also creates severe anxiety attacks,And I find it extremely debilitating that I have to cope with both the noise and the pollution that fireworks cause for weeks and weeks on end, this year alone I found that I had to stay on strong steroid medication and oxygen and nebulisers right Through September to the end of January! this is all down to the stress of constant and unexpected fireworks and the pollution in the air.

On a secondary note I have two dogs that are terrified of fireworks and yes as a responsible dog owner I could cope with controlling this issue as best I can on a few off the celebratory dates that you would expect fireworks to go off ia November 5th Diwali New Year's Eve Chinese New Year's Eve etc. if fireworks were restricted to a few dates in the year I think all of us would be able to compromise, but the truth is fireworks now go off for months on end and can be so Random! I myself have been affected by having my dog run into the road as a firework was let off in a local park at 3pm in broad daylight how is this fair or even legal?

I spend weeks night after night Comforting terrified dogs which triggers my health problems! I cannot go out, I cannot leave them at all, as on the few nights that they may have been left alone when I was not expecting fireworks,they have caused damage to them self in sheer panic!! none of the AIDS on the market help a dog that reaches that anxiety level and it is not responsible fair or right to be expected to sedate an animal for weeks on end.

I know that people that do not understand this problem with firework believe that there is enough help out there with all of the products on the market but until they've had to comfort a terrified dog, a dog that would do anything without thought to its own health and safety to get away from the noise of fireworks,

they will not understand that a lot of these products out there just will not work on an animal that has reached that stage of Fear. But this year at my wits end i tried everything and spent Fortunes! money that I do not have trying to bring some comfort to my animals I tried every product that there is and still spend to many nights with a dog so terrified that she bit threw her own tongue, tried to bury into the bath and wet herself in fear! and yet we are meant to be a nation of animal lovers and still there is no law to restrict the use of fireworks why is this? so many other countries have already done.

This this is not about spoiling people's fun, but about allowing both humans and pet owners, farmers,or people with horses and animals outside, to be able to prepare and keep themselves and their animals safe.

The laws that currently exist for the use of fireworks do not work yes it may be illegal to let them off in public but on many

times I have called the police by the time they reach the area where the fireworks went off the culprits have disappeared.

If there were tighter laws as to when they were sold and noise limits being reduced further, people would not be able to get hold of fireworks all year round and therefore we wouldn't have this issue I believe now is the time for change this suffering is real.

29. MR Anon

Point: 1) I've never enjoyed fireworks. Mainly because a school friend was blinded by one when we were about five. So tragic and so real it changes your perspective.

2) I've never seen a firework display that didn't look better from at least a mile away! 3) I was born and raised in the country and have seen so much damage to farm animals by irresponsible, cowardly thugs that think they're big and clever. They are not. They are idiots and a menace to society.

4) I've always had dogs. They've all been terrified of the noise associated with fireworks, despite my spending silly money in CD's to get them used to the noise, DAP diffusers, Rescue remedy drops and at one point, medication from the vet! Never, ever again. The look of sheer terror on her face when she could hear what was going on but was completely unable to physically move

almost destroyed us both! 5) My dog will walk forever by my side without a lead if I need to walk with my crutches but when a random firework explodes, she's off like a shot, in pure panic. Resulting in husband and daughter riding round for hours at times, trying to find her. So far, we've been able to. I'm aware though that one day ...

When we get her home, she's still so stressed she won't eat or drink and it takes a couple of days for her to settle again and get back to, 'normal', then, we have another, random firework!!!

During Guy Fawkes season (anything from Oct-Dec or Nov-Jan) she's constantly prowling. Trying to make a safe bed. She knows before long (night AND day for some even more ridiculous reason?) there'll be another load. She loses weight and each one takes a little bit more of her gentle, loving, friendly personality.

How can this be right?

6) I have PTSD. Not for any military reason but because I was in a coma for two months, Sept - Nov. (Yes, during Guy Fawkes season.) I can only try to explain how that has affected my brain. All I can say is, every time a firework went off in that city, over those two months, I thought I was living in a war zone. Bombs were exploding all around me. My family were being killed and buildings were being destroyed before my eyes and I was powerless to prevent it. I was in coma. I was totally unable to move to get myself out of those situations (real or imagined) so, can YOU imagine how that affects me now? Maybe not but I sure wish everyone could be in my head, just long enough for one firework to explode!

Quite simply, It's the noise. I don't want to stop people having fun but they don't have to be so loud! They never were, so why now?

Finally, two further things occur to me.

A) Only the English could spend hundreds of years celebrating a failure. And B) Mr Fawkes

and fellow conspirators, would you care to return and have another go please?

You're country truly needs you!!

30. Helene

Living in the centre of the city we can be subjected to kids throwing fireworks, a few years ago kids were launching rockets down the street. I won't walk my dogs in the night during the season as I'm too scared.

When fireworks are going off I have to build a den for my dogs, have the TV on loud. I don't sleep until they have finished being set off as my dogs are scared. I have to book leave for known events else I arrive for work tired. People have mini displays in the tiny city gardens here, ignorant of the potential risk to houses and cars parks just a metre or so away. I am an A+E doctor and see first hand the damage they can cause to human life. I don't understand in this day and age of health and safety why they are still sold to the general public.

31. Chris

Our Collie was rescued and is terrified of fireworks. We live very close to where they hold the Nos Galon races on New Years Eve. We also foster and every year we have to take our Collie as far away as we can so he cannot hear the fireworks. Every year I email Rhondda CynonTaff Council and ask them could they why they cannot use silent fireworks as it is in the centre of a village. I get a standard reply they will speak to the company, but they never do. They come right over house.

It is not just the dogs there is a residential home close by with elderly people. There is also a hospital close by with terminally ill patients. RCT just don't care.

It is not just dogs that suffer but elderly people and small babies. Think of the people who are dying near these fireworks imagine what they are going through. Also the people who are ill.

We have fireworks from the end of October till early January during the evening and the middle of the night. And not just small fireworks more like the commercial ones. Shops should be banned from selling these sort of fireworks. The government should make a law to stop the importing of fireworks unless they are silent. The decibels that are legal are far too high and should be lowered if they cannot do this.

I wish they could see our dog. We have tried everything to calm him down but nothing works. We are so scared as he gets himself into such a state we are worried he might have a heart attack. You have always been able to buy fireworks without bangs and they are just as good.

All this nonsense started with the Millennium. It should now stop or be silent.

I use to love fireworks but now I hate them seeing what they do dogs and people

32. Jayne

So it's Wednesday 16th March. My husband who has just had back surgery and I come away for some rest and recuperation to Whitby. 7pm the fireworks start in some prick's garden. They carry on for about 70 mins before I am compelled to go outside and yell ' have some consideration for people will you !'. I ring the local Police who I know full well will have no powers to do anything about it. And they take a note of where it is happening but have no power until after 11pm. My poor dog is stressed beyond belief and my husband who had just gotten off to get some sleep after 3 weeks of less than 4 hour of sleep is now wide awake. How can this be right???? Quiet now but if it continues I may just end up being taken away by the Police myself for hitting someone. And the Government believes that the laws around Fireworks are strict enough. Well Government that presumes that people have consideration for others.... And they don't. So pull your finger out and take action NOW

33. Susan

Its fantastic the amount we have reached lets hope we can get to 100,000 mark by the 2nd april.I sent an e-mail to my local

MP yesterday stating how much these fireworks affect me, my little dog & my partner who has dementia i also mentioned how the war veterans as well as those who might have lived through a war, must feel when these "bomb" type fireworks go off. This is the only way i can describe them as they are so loud & disturbing (they even make me jump) there ridiculous!!! Anyway ive asked for his help in anyway he can & to click on the link that leads him to this campaign as i mentioned he would be able to read peoples comments about the fireworks & problems people are experiencing. I got an e-mail back saying they are hoping to get back to me in 15 days. Hopefully its sooner!!!! Im glad ive been part of this campaign & i just hope we can get a good result from it all, "FINGERS CROSSED

Firework Statements – Animal

1. BA11 Alexia

I have been asked to message you. One of my dogs, Frank, a rescue bull x lurcher has increasingly been finding fireworks being let off for longer periods of time over the years more difficult.

He already has serious anxiety issues from what we suspect was an abusive past as a working lurcher. This year the firework period went on for a period over two weeks and then still the random odd one. The size of fireworks made the town sound like Beirut and the house shook.

I had an Adaptil Diffuser on for a few weeks in the lead up, he had Skullcap and Valerium tablets - the highest dose, Rescue Remedy, a Thundershirt on, I was using T-Touch methods and he hid on the sofa next to me under one of my jumpers. As the week of bonfire night progressed he reached a point where nothing was working - he is Clicker trained and I have used lots of counter conditioning, operant conditioning and BAT with him but he was way over Threshold so this would have been a pointless exercise. In desperation I rang the vets on the Saturday of the second weekend and asked for help. He was prescribed Diazepam because I was worried he would have a heart attack or his health was seriously at risk. So for two nights he was on a high dose of Diazepam, still with a Thundershirt on and hiding under my jumper next to me.

My major issues are the amount of days the fireworks went on and the size of fireworks that the public now seem to be able to buy. Something needs to change to help dogs like Frank have more chance of coping around fireworks.

2. BS5 Ruby

Dog 1 - ignores fireworks now due to being deaf from old age however when a puppy used to get very distressed weeing and poeing everywhere every time one went off to the point he was contained to one room mum and dad tried Calmex everything so they're great full he's old now

Dog 2 - hearing is still sharp can hear a door knock before me gets extremely distressed over the sound of fireworks has a heart murmur so have to try keep him calm have to put the tele on in room which was hard prior to dad mounting it to wall as he would scratch he threw up all over my floral material sofa this year bless him usually I go to bed at 5 with a loud Disney movie on and him under the covers going shhhh to keep him calm really upsets me as the neighbours who's land is above mine have dogs themselves but still left continuous fireworks off I had to corner them the other day and complain about it because it's not fair the vets have now said he's going to need like relaxing tablets for new year otherwise it's going to cause him more harm than good which is a shame it upsets my two year old as well as she can't be near my dog when fireworks go off as he can become snappy quick which puts her at risk

Dog 3 - this is my aunties dog she doesn't do any social media or I'd have her inbox you herself, this is a little jack Russell who literally destroys everything in sight when fireworks go off the bed can't have anything on so he can hide he cries pees

jumps in the bathtub and it's so bad he's on sedatives because of it but it doesn't stop the shaking and paralysis he gets its heart breaking for her as it often means she misses out on events with me and my daughter because of it.

3. BS3 Deb

My 5 year old greyhound Leah has been terrified on and off since mid October due to the fireworks. Tonight when I went out, she weed on the mat, something she hasn't done since she came to us as a traumatised rescue at 1 years old and now she trembles every time we leave the house day or night. Normally a happy confident dog, she was really scared of the bin lorry this morning.

4. BT6 Suzie Alexander

I live in Belfast N.Ireland we would have fireworks displays in October for Halloween which i dread every year. I have a Staffordshire Bull Terrier who is coming up on 10 yrs who is absolutely petrified of fireworks I have tried everything from sprays to the Thundercoat to try and calm him i have even made a den for him under my stairs and have had to sit with him he shakes and pants which couldn't be good for any animal it's about time these fire bombs I call them, are made illegal as they are dangerous and let our pets live in peace, that my dog doesn't eat and would be really sick with nerves thanks

5. CB1 Catherine

I think you are the correct person to write to about our poor dog's firework experiences. I have actually had to move house because of them. I used to live in central Cambridge. We had fireworks going off for 28 / 35 days last year after Divalii.

My dogs coped ok initially but then as the days went by they couldn't cope at all. My setter would spend every evening barking constantly and panting and wanting to get outside to chase them away. This was obviously very stressful for her, me and our neighbours. My lab was the worst though he got to a point that he couldn't eat after dark for months as he associated darkness with scary fireworks. He wouldn't go outside either and so going to the toilet was impossible last thing at night. His toilet training therefore went to pot. It broke my heart to see him deteriorate emotionally and he is no longer the confident and happy dog that he was. He will never totally recover I don't think. His life is still stressful as he is now scared of crow scarers, gunshots thunder and even doors slamming, all of which were never a problem before.

If organised fireworks were only allowed (on specific days) I would be more than happy to make arrangements for my dogs but you can't when you don't know when they are going to go off. They have definitely ruined my labradors life seriously.

6. CH49 Lynda

I have a five year old staffy who is terrified of fireworks. Each year she seems worse than the last. Every night for more than a week she was shaking and panting for many hours each evening. When they eventually stopped she was still anxious, she had started associating the dark with fear and it took a few nights of no fireworks before she was back to normal. Sometimes now if she hears a loud bang she will be anxious and shaking for an hour or so, that actually happened last night about 6pm.

My wish is that it would be organised displays on one night only, none for sale to the public. Some may think that sounds selfish and I don't like to spoil children's fun but these days for many it is a time to dread. We have new years eve very soon but we wouldn't dream of going out and leaving her alone.

7. C07 Marie

Hi...the pony was Fly. He was 11.1 Dartmoor and Raffles 8hh Shetland. They were living at the local Horse rescue when I lost everything in divorce. I still had contact with them. The restaurant opposite the rescue held a large Firework party last year but failed to notify the rescue who normally don't get nearby hoses using fireworks. Fly grew more and more distressed and vet called who administered sedation and nothing worked. Vet said he had twisted a gut to far to operate and was PTS. His elderly mate had also become distressed but once sedation required two days on drip and only just pulled through from the trauma it caused him. He now is on his own and clearly, a year later, misses his lifelong companion. We were

heartbroken feeling that we had let them down twice. Giving them up when my ex tried to take the home me leaving me with two kids and horses homeless. then placing them with friends who own and run the rescue to be safe for life. I no way blame the rescue as they fought tooth and nail to keep them safe but fireworks and fun stole their lives.

At the end of every October I begin to fill with dread....Fireworks are one again on the horizon. Now the firework season is so much longer that feeling of stress builds for longer. Birthdays...Christmas...new year..divorce any reason to celebrate now uses fireworks. Once upon a time I could plan for 5th of November and one weekend either side. This planning would include spending the whole evening from dusk to dawn in the barn with my horses, and dog, the small animals rabbits Guinea pigs would all be in the barn with music playing to deflect the bags..the lights on to diffuse the flashes giving them human company and confidence. Now you never know when they are going off and spend many evening dashing off to the yard before fear and injury can be inflicted. I do not wish to prevent other having fun but ask that it is done responsibly. Set display dates only Organised displays or designated areas to set them off in.

8. C01 Sue

Been a owner of 2 greyhounds one of them that find the sound of fireworks going off upsetting and although most times that they are going off are when fireworks do go off the loud bangs do not help my greyhound . The 5th November once they started going off I landing sitting in my bathroom with one of my greyhound trying to clam him down which took hours, I land up sleeping downstairs with him as he had only been with us since May. New year eve I thought was going to be ok until just before midnight when they started once again one very stressed greyhound . I know we wont get them ban from display shows but maybe ban them from home use or low the noise level I know it not just my greyhound that suffers but many more greyhounds, animals as well as some people.

9. C09 Sally

No fireworks now for 2 nights, but my two boys start shaking and panting as soon as it gets dark. Scooter is still having to have his thundershirt on and rescue remedy as he is more affected than Fidget. This should not have to happen in their own house where they should feel safe.

10. CV32 Lyn

I have two dogs; a Jack Russell and a Collie, both working dogs, and both used to guns on the farm. No problem! I also have two house cats, whom are usually outgoing and friendly, and a horse (26yrs).

My sheep dog is 12yrs old in February. From her 1st year "Bonfire night" has become "Bonfire 3 months". She has to be medicated with 10mg diazepam* for many, many nights, because she cannot cope with the "BANG, BANG, BANG, BANG, BANG!!!!", sub sonic "BOOM's", and the ultra sonic "SCREEEEEM's". As a farmer, this has effect on her character, because she is drugged! She is terrified of working the field, at my busiest time of "Tupping" to lambing! My Jack Russell, whom is a two year old, just goes berserk, bouncing off the walls, and constantly barking! She too will need sedation at some point.

My cats, become skulking "scaredy cats", whom refuse to go out, and have to use a litter tray! For weeks they will not interact with me, or the family, or leave the house!

I cannot hack out on my horse in winter, because he becomes paranoid of anything and everything! He can shy at an apple falling, or a plastic bag in the hedgerow, and it is dangerous for us and other road users, because he becomes so scared and unpredictable he can spin round and gallop home!

I ask that the sale to the public of EXPLOSIVES, should be STOPPED, and public "one night only" displays be encouraged! If we, as animal lovers can be prepared, we can manage the fear!

My postcode is CV32 and fireworks are going off constantly!

I work nights as a nurse and have to "abandon" my terrified animals just when the need me!

11. DA12 Sophie

My past rescued dogs have had issues with firework noise. My remaining dog is my late Mum's rescued Chinese Crested dog - Phoebe. She has a lovely temperament and is a happy little soul once she had settled with us. We are very happy to have been able to give her a home and she is no bother - a lovely little character to have around. Around the middle of October, our lives and Phoebe's life changes dramatically.

She faces - total hysterical fear of fireworks noise and flashes, toileting indoors in fear and refusal to venture into the garden even when the fireworks have stopped. If we pop out, she is left in the utility room with a metal baby gate as a barrier. If fireworks are let off, she has bitten through the utility room wall, down to the metal angle strip on the corner in an attempt to escape and also bitten the metal of the baby gate -- leaving blood from her gums on it. If we leave her free run of the house, she has chewed our oak door leading to the front door, in an attempt to get out. She hyperventilates to the point of collapse at times and fouls whichever area she is in at the time - or everywhere is she has free run . For us - we face total anxiety about her state, destruction of our home, cleaning up all the fouling and as well as feeling totally sorry for her, some frustration when this goes on for months at a time and sometimes multiple times a day. We then both feel very guilty at feeling frustrated!! It causes emotional upset within my family as well as friction when the situation is unrelenting from October to January.

If fireworks were controlled to informed events at appropriate times of the year, we would have an opportunity to medicate her (although that is also a worry) and make sure we were with her during the firework display. All in all, a very fraught time for pet and owners. Please feel free to use this however you see fit. I have already sent pics of my destroyed door. I am looking for pics of the plastered, chewed wall Another point is that Chinese Crested don't have the same dentition as other dogs, so our other fear is that she will damage her weaker teeth.

12. DA12 Belind

I have lived in Gravesend town centre near the river front, for over twenty years. During this time the amount of firework usage has spiralled with each passing year. My 7yr old dog Flori, had no problems with fireworks , storms etc., when she was a younger dog: we did all the common sense socialization processes with her, and she also attended dog behaviour training classes, which she passed with no problems.

However, after a particularly bad firework season several years ago, Flori began to exhibit increasing distress when fireworks were going off in the area around our home. That year, the fireworks started in October, and increased throughout November without abating, culminating on New Year's Eve. Our windows shook, and even playing loud music didn't help to distract her or us! In fact, my kitchen window was cracked by a rocket!

Two years ago, a rocket firework became wedged in my guttering down pipe, and caused a backup of rain water, which leaked through into our bedroom (which had recently been replastered and decorated). From this time, each firework season has become noisier, with extremely loud and powerful fireworks being let off within yards of our home. And despite taking veterinary advice, and trying the following

Building a safe den

Playing loud music while fireworks are going off

Not paying attention to our dog while she was agitated

Dap

Zylkene tablets from the vet

Natural calming herbal remedies

Thundershirt

Anti-histamines

Sedating

Diazepam (at maximum safe dose)

Extra exercise

I came back from work at 3:45pm on Wednesday 11th November 2015 to find that my dog had tried to get into the bedrooms, by chewing and scratching the doors and door frames... her blood smeared over the area, I had come home early in order to

give my dog her dose of diazepam, before dusk as our vet had instructed. However, was told that people had been letting off fireworks throughout the day in my area, and Flori had panicked and tried to flee from the noise!

I have come to absolutely dread the autumn/winter season over the last few years; no longer able to go out in the evenings as we have been unable to leave Flori alone. However, I'm now scared to even go to work during the day, in case someone let's off more fireworks and she hurts herself, and seriously damages the home again!

We, and our vet, are rapidly running out of ideas on how to address this escalating problem... my dog is no longer the dog that we once knew....and our family life is being very adversely affected by the worry of what will happen next!

13. DN15 Melanie

So here we have our horses a 23yr old veteran and 3 yr old youngster safely inside ready for a neighbour at the rear of the stables doing their annual fireworks display. Now I had lights on radio on full and these horses had already had sedative paste prescribed from the vets as the youngest one had only just previously come back from equine hospital after nearly losing her eye. This was still the terrifying distress it caused them.. Now I will add we had 48hrs notice of the event but this was held on the 31st oct.. Something needs to be done about restrictions to dates and distance from animals/stables/farms etc. Video of distressed horses during fireworks

14. DN32 Rachel

Fireworks are a constant annoyance not just around bonfire night when they basically start been let off as darkness falls until the early hours of the morning all over the town. They start at the end of October and and continue until the middle of November, this year there were far more in both noise level and amount heard, and they continued sporadically through Christmas and New year. This year it was like living through the battle of the Somme on a nightly basis, my border collie was extremely distressed even after I had purchased all the recommended calming products available, we had many sleepless night waiting for the next bang to go off. I spoke to many colleagues at work who also suffered a very similar experience

15. E11 Rachel

Apart from the occasional lack of sleep fireworks cause myself and my husband my main issue is the effect they are having on one of my dogs. She has complex behavioural issues causing her to chase and bite her tail and already takes medication for this. Any stressful event will increase the amount she self harms during the actual event and for a period of time after. This year she has gone from mostly tolerating fireworks noise in previous years to being terrified as soon as any bangs start. I am convinced this is because of stress stacking during the period around fireworks night where we had 4 weeks solid of bangs every night. The fact that the noise was so frequent did not give her any chance for her stress levels to drop. In fact she became so stressed by the firework noise that she developed a general fear of the dark and refused to eat after dark until early December when she started to calm down again. She has also developed separation anxiety when left alone if dark and instead of sleeping happily on our bed now hides beneath it and will not eat any food left with her. She already takes Prozac for her compulsive spinning but this alone has not been enough to avoid the stress of fireworks. We have tried thunder shirts, zylkene and adaptil which made no difference so we have had to resort to a visit to the vet and a prescription for xanax. Even with the highest dose of xanax she can have she was still distressed at midnight on New Years Eve although thankfully not as badly as she was on 5th November. Myself and my husband stayed at home rather than go out with friends to care for her – the first fireworks went off at 5pm and the last ones stopped at 1:45am. Although we do have the xanax for her it is a medication of short duration lasting only 3-4 hours so we had to leave her without medication for the early part of the night to make sure she would be covered during the worst of it. Xanax is also physically addictive and is not recommended for long term use so would not be suitable to use every night between early October and mid February when fireworks might be going off (this is the time period experience tells me we can expect to hear random fireworks going off).

restricted to certain dates of the year and that people in an area where they will be used should have warning. We live in Leytonstone in East London. I understand that I am unfortunate to have a dog that is affected by this issue and I do not expect to live in a world where no one is allowed to use fireworks ever. What I do think is reasonable is that their use is restricted to certain dates of the year and that people in an area where they will be used should have warning.

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16. HP14 Ms HG – Anon

Hi, the fireworks this year have made my dog very nervous, as we walked past a house a week before Guy Fawkes night someone let off a firework my dog was so scared he was dragging us home his claws were worn down it took him at least 2 hours to calm down enough to eat, since then walking past the same house he walks fast starts panting but once away from that house he is fine, but now any loud noise especially gun shots (I live in the country) he is very nervous, I went from having a very calm happy relaxed boy who didn't worry about anything now he is a very nervous dog at night and doesn't want to go for his evening walk. It is horrible seeing him like this, keep up the good work, and Happy Christmas to you. Helen I love fireworks the same as the next person but now I see what it has done to my lovely boy I'm not so keen, I wish it was only allowed for a couple of nights not weeks on end. No I didn't go to the vets we just didn't walk him in the evening for a couple of weeks, but he still isn't keen on his evening walks now, I think it's because he can't see what's around him, so I am taking him on a longer walk before it gets dark so he can enjoy himself.

17. IG10 Jan

I would just like to say that I hate fireworks on so many levels! I have signed petitions asking to ban them! I have used

thundershirts, calm spot on and silent4! Just about keeping a lid on things but it spoils the evening, fireworks in london on tv with no sound, amazing! Fireworks in back garden not so! Not all of my dogs are worried by them, just my lg's! My pony used to stand and watch them but now is blind, cataracts due to cushings but the person who owns the field behind his house assures me he is fine!

18. KY15 Hazel

I have 3 border collies, the oldest is 13. She is terrified of fireworks. There is no consoling her. She trembles and shakes for hours after hearing only one firework. Sometimes she is so terrified she can't eat. The biggest problem I find with fireworks is that I can't preempt one going off, so that I could maybe take my dogs elsewhere. Neighbours let fireworks off any evening, any hour around Guy Fawkes and New Year. I have to take my dogs out at some point in the evening, it can be like Russian roulette at times taking the chance to let them out. If the sale and use of fireworks were restricted, at least I could be forewarned and could hopefully take some evasive action. It seems such a shame that any animal should suffer hours of fear for a moments flash and bang in the sky.

19. LA14 Selena and Jennifer

Since the end of October last year(2015) we have had fireworks going off most evenings epically the week before and the week after bonfire night and New Year. We have 3 little Yorkshire Terriers one in particular is really scared and stresses out shaking and panting. Despite our efforts of trying to keep her calm by using calming spot on, tablets, collar and a calming plug in. Now when we go to bed at night she starts to shake and pant as one night when we were going up the bed the loudest rocket went off and scared her now she associates going to bed and banging. We have changed the routine but unfortunately this is not helping. Something needs to be done about the sale of fireworks to the general public and restrictions need to be made. It's not just upsetting animals but also people who are suffering from pts and the elderly.

20. LS10 MH – Anon

In my area of Leeds fireworks are heard all year round. Some say it is a signal to say that drugs are available from a particular place. However, between October and January we get loud volleys of fireworks every day and night. These are not just pretty colours in the sky but explosions which make the house shake. Apart from being a nuisance to people trying to sleep it is quite frightening to all especially children and animals. I have a Yorkshire terrier called Ollie who hides whenever he hears fireworks. He shakes to an extent that I can hear his teeth chattering. He will not eat, drink or respond to anything for several hours. He spends his evenings looking up through the skylights looking for fireworks. He will no longer go out in the dark. I cannot let him off the leash in case there is a bang in which case I would have no control of him. On two occasions he set off for home, crossing roads with no regard to me or traffic on the road. He was only a puppy then. I need to ensure I am home to feed and walk Ollie during the day so I can walk him in daylight hours. I am also disturbed during the night when he needs to go out as a result of him not walking at night. Ollie spend his nights under the bed now and often his evenings under the printer or coffee table where he feels safe. This behaviour only started after he experienced fireworks. I have tried everything on the market to help including pheromone plug ins and collars. CDs of fireworks and noises, sedatives from vets, even taken him to herbalist which has all proved to be very expensive and a waste of money. I am left apprehensive of the next firework and frustrated that I cannot it seems, help my pet in any way.

21. LU2 SA –Anon

Though it's not too bad round our way from mid October to end of November fireworks do go off in the area and do disturb our peace, we are a small village and I have two horses kept at home, they live out 24/7 with no stabling, so can't shut them in to keep safe. last year at 2am someone set off fireworks in the middle of the road right beside my horses field shelter, she was on her own at that point after loosing my other horse to colic earlier in the year. turns out it coincided with people getting

their exam results.. Given her calm nature luckily she was ok when we went out to check on her. In previous years, it has really affected my first horse who used to be very worried for nights on end and regularly would be sweaty in the mornings.

The two mares I have now still get upset by them and as the newest neighbour to our village often holds me to ransom by saying if I don't let him have access through our field to his garden then he'll start having them.

Basically we can't make plans to go out from mid to end of October to mid November as we have to be on call and ready to go out to the horses. It's exhausting being on 'standby' especially until gone 11pm each night for around a good 10 days.

I know not nearly as bad as some people have it, and I'm just thankful we have generally good neighbours and that I don't live in a town.

My dear cousin in Herefordshire, his partner has one horse kept at home on its own and while only in a tiny hamlet, their neighbour sets off fireworks on purpose to upset their many cats, dogs, chickens and said horse.. if I can get him to write up a statement I will but I think its unlikely, though I'm sure he wouldn't mind us using this if it is of help? his postcode is SY7

I also have a friend at work who's collie has to be on medication for about a month either side of it, and won't go on walks anymore, scared of gunshots and any loud noises now.

22. NG33 Jo

I had just got home from the vets with a young cat who had had major surgery to both hips;

"We are home. I had just got Ginger comfortable and off to sleep when some absolute ***** started setting off fireworks grumpy emoticon . He was absolutely terrified and tried to escape. I now have a vulnerable spaced out cat and a traumatised

23. NN5 LF – Anon

Although firework night was originally November 5th or a couple of nights either side, unfortunately, for many years now, firework use has spread not only to three months or more of intense bombardment but also throughout the year for peoples Birthdays, weddings or just because they can and it's about time this was curbed.

For those of us who have pets it is an extremely stressful (and upsetting) time and I am one of the thousands of dog owners who are affected every single time fireworks are let off and have to try and calm my barking, stressed, salivating/drooling dog who is not able to settle and paces backwards and forwards constantly. I have tried numerous treatments including medication from the vets to try to keep him calm, but so far nothing has worked and in any case, why should I have to spend my money trying to sort out a problem that is caused by other selfish individuals who clearly have no thought for anyone, or anything, but themselves?! It's bad enough

when you know when fireworks are going to be let off (Nov. 5th) and at least you can TRY and prepare both yourself and your home environment, dog etc. for the barrage, but when they are let off totally at random at all times throughout the year, how can pet owners possibly be expected to prepare for such things? It's anti-social and causes a nuisance end of."

24. OX11 Janice

Our dog, Saffy is a 3 year old Golden Retriever, every time there are fireworks she is absolutely petrified, she trembles, her whole body shakes she pants uncontrollably and nothing we do for her will calm her down because of the loud unnecessary bangs,from fireworks. There needs to be some control regarding the sale of fireworks and times they should be allowed to be used, it's simply irresponsible to any animals/pets or otherwise to be subjected to this torture. We find it very upsetting, not being able to keep Saffy away from these distressing times. We have in the past bought calming treatments from the vets at

a cost of £25 a time, this is an unjust cost to ourselves which we cannot afford to keep buying!.... and to be fair why should we have to!. I personally would like controlled events on certain dates ie November 5th!!! And not to be sold to Joe Bloggs to let off in his back garden when he's most likely drunk and in charge of such dangerous weapons. Would also like to add, Saffy squeezes into the tiniest places behind the settee and wall, trying to get some comfort away from Fireworks, she will not come out of this space until the bangs stop, and all the while, she is shaking uncontrollably.

25. OX16 Olivia

My dog has always been scared of fireworks, we once took her for a walk and a young lad of about 15/16 yrs old let off a firework behind us. Obviously that scared my dog, thankfully we had her on a lead but normally we don't have on a lead (she's a border collie so sticks with us and better off the lead) but before she has run off scared. It cost us a lot for calming tablets and sedative from vets for 5th Nov and nye but we know they are going to go off so we can prepare. It's the random firework parties etc that we can't get away from. X Obviously it's distressing for myself and my mum to watch how scared she is. Animals don't understand, we have tried all we can to help her but unfortunately all we can do is turn radios on loud and close the curtains. It's not just dogs who get affected. I never know what is best to do with my horse. Do I leave him out in the field and risk him running around and hurting himself, or a firework landing in his field. Or do I bring him into his stable and risk him getting upset and at worst possibly colicing!

26. OX26 Andrea

My 4 ponies were terrorised last Friday night. My paddock is in the heart of a small village where everyone more or less knows each other. I am usually with my ponies on firework night before and after the 5/11 but I had something with my daughter that took priority and had assumed all would be quiet as neighbours to my paddock usually give me the heads up. The nursing home that is adjacent to my paddock had a massive firework display, they didn't mention to any of their neighbours that they were planning to do this. My parents luckily live in the village and my father looks after my ponies whenever I'm away, he rushed round to try and calm them down and I got there about half hour after it had finished and it took me more than an hour to calm them all down. Luckily none of them were injured. My mother rang me when my father rushed out after hearing the first bang, with that I called the nursing home and told them to stop, the manager and owner didn't want to talk to me so I wrote a review on their FB page and their reply to it was extremely uncaring, not a single apology or even asked if my animals were ok. Everyone in the village that have animals all said the same thing, that their animal were terrified and no notice given. All they had to do was let people in the village know what they were planning, so that we can keep our animals safe. In the 25 or so years my horses have been there not once has there been a display like that. Truly selfish and heartless, I hope they treat their residents better than the local community.

27. PO38 Sara

My retired racing Greyhound becomes a quivering wreck when fireworks start going off. It's not just the big bangs either, it's the whistles and fizzes that precede the bang. He will start by being ultra alert to sounds around him and staring with eyes like terrified saucers at the windows. Then the pacing starts with his tail tucked so far underneath him it's like he doesn't have a tail at all. All the while he's pacing he's trembling like a leaf so badly you can literally hear and feel the vibration of it through the floor. He will try to find a "safe place" to hide and curl up in a ball to make himself as small as possible. Once he's chosen his "safe place" he will stay there, panting, hyperventilating, trembling, with a thumping heart you can see through his fur and wide terrified eyes. He won't eat. He won't drink. This can last for hours after the fireworks have stopped. One year he was so bad I had to carry him bodily out into

the garden the next morning to go to the loo because he'd been holding on for a good 8hrs or more because he was too frightened to move from his safe place he'd chosen. Poor dog was desperate for the loo, hungry from refusing his dinner the night before and desperately thirsty from all the panting. I've tried Adaptil collars, sprays, room diffusers, Rescue Remedy and Kalms Night along with the "ignore them" dog behaviourist theory and I've also tried having the TV on louder than normal, I've tried reading to him in his safe space, stroking him and I've even slept on the floor next to him so he didn't feel alone with his terror. Nothing has worked. If there are fireworks I go through this process. It's heartbreaking. You wouldn't put a human child through this terror they don't understand, so why should animals be expected to cope? Unfortunately the chap who lives just across the road from my cul de sac does the pyrotechnics for the big IOW Festivals. This means he can obtain

professional display grade fireworks. Our walls and windows shake thanks to him. It's like a war zone when this guy gets going. I normally have to take Arik to my Mums house in the next village 6 miles away where it's quieter. I'm terrified Arik will have a heart attack one day.

28. P12 Elle

I feel strongly that fireworks must have a limit it is fun in all but sometimes its too ridiculous the noise troubles people and pets, people with young children or adults. I have had one horrible experience with a firework I was at my field when a firework was thrown at my horse and her herd.

29. PR8 Vera

My 4 year old Cairn, Molly, hardly registered fireworks in her first year but as she has grown up a continual barking to the extent that nobody in the house can do anything has developed from an alert bark ago to an angry bark and this last year a frightened barking. She a real toughy about things in general, isn't bothered by thunder just fireworks. I put her in a 'thunder jacket' last Nov 5th and it definitely calmed her so I'm just hoping it continues to help. We have never reacted to her at all when she barks at fireworks believing this is best but still anxiety is growing. I feel really angry for all those pets that suffer more than Molly and believe strongly that fireworks should be banned in domestic situations-they are much noisier and more intrusive than they used to be

30. RH2 Brenda

My dog, Poppy has been seeing a behaviorist as she has developed a phobia about anything that sounds remotely like a bang! Whilst she has always been scared of fur works, thunder etc. Over the last 2 years, especially at firework time this has got worse. There have been fireworks being let off during the day time as well as after dark. The season starts in October and goes on until January. Not to mention all the ones in between, parties etc. She is on medication and I have to do exercises with her to go with these, do far not at of success sadly, but the vet and the behaviorist tell me it takes a while for the medication to kick in so keeping my fingers crossed . I can't let her off the lead ad if she hears anything, could be a car back firing, someone banging in a fence post etc. She goes into a blind panic and runs for her life.

31. RH17 Trevor

My dog, a 10 year old retired ex racing Greyhound suffers severe anxiety and panic attacks during fireworks and months of psychological turmoil afterwards. She won't go out after dark and often messes in the house, she shakes uncontrollably and cowers in the corner salivating when I get the leads out for several months following even just one stray firework (which was most likely sold illegally to an underage minor.). Sadly, living in the countryside as we do, we are also exposed to seemingly relentless gunshot from people who consider that hunting and killing animals for "sport" is not barbaric insanity (I digress but this is also a major issue for my dog). 'Maggie',who is the most gentle and loving dog imaginable and who attracts so much fuss and attention from local children on her walks is put through weeks and months of psychological torture at the hands of people indiscriminately setting of fireworks at all times of day and night all year round. My partner and I have to try to arrange our holidays from work to be with the dog during the worst times. This is not easy to manage as you just never know when the fireworks will be set off and has caused my partner stress and migraine many times. This isn't just a case of taking holidays either. I am self employed and have to suffer severe loss of income because of this situation. But I will not abandon my dog!! This year, for firework night, or should I say firework fortnight, I decided the best course of action would be to take Maggie somewhere where I know there won't be any bangs in an effort to reduce her stress and the possibility of suffering heart attack. Not ideal as these dogs are not happy out of their familiar surroundings but a preferred option over dealing with the insanity of fireworks. With the cost of a holiday let some 250 miles away from where we live, fuel, food and loss of earnings, those 4 days away cost me in excess of £700. Add to this £100's I've already

spent on remedies, thunder jackets, vet consultations and prescriptions as well as the many many sleepless nights I have trying to comfort my dog, I think it's fair to say that fireworks make my life and that of my partner a complete misery. They are effecting our life and our health. I am not anti-fireworks, but I firmly believe restrictions on their use and on their decibel levels need to be put in place as soon as possible.

32. SL2 AMcM – Anon

I have 6 rescue cats, some are feral and cannot live indoors. They are all absolutely terrified by fireworks and if they are outside when they hear a bang, they bolt for it and don't come back. Therefore I try to get them in every day at 3.30pm before it goes dark, which is incredibly difficult especially with the feral cats. Even once inside the house (as per government recommendation), they are still terrified of the noise and go into hiding, whether it's behind the sofa, or in a corner in the bedroom, or press themselves flat to the stairs. They don't come out to eat, drink or use the toilet. When they do move about, they are very very nervous and slink with their bodies close to the ground as they would near a predator. All this also has a big impact on my life as it means I can't go out and leave them. Every night I keep thinking "surely there can't be any more fireworks" and then without fail there are more every night and for a few nights unfortunately I wasn't quick enough to get my cats in. There have been fireworks every single night since 31 Oct, starting as early as 4.30pm and ending as late as 1am. Every year in the past I have had to collect a lot of firework shells which have landed in my garden.

33. SS12 Dave

In my case the affect of fireworks being let off at random times of the day and year is around the stress and serious outcome to dogs in general. Although my experience is based mainly on the issues around greyhounds as I own two and work closely with greyhound groups. We have had many situations whereby our dogs have been so stressed that they have required urgent medical attention. An extreme case last year resulted in a young healthy greyhound suffering a heart attack as a result of the continuous noise and sadly passed away. There are certain measures we can take with our dogs but they need prior preparation. Having a restriction on the times that fireworks can be let off would help plan these measures rather than not know when the dogs are likely to get stressed as a result of random noise.

34. S65 Emma

I have a dog who is petrified by the noise of fireworks . He won't go outside to toilet after dark for fear of fireworks going off. This started mid September for us and is still going on. If past experience is anything to go by it wont stop till end of Jan.

I take all the advice from experts. I have the TV on loud, draw the curtains, make him small dens to hide in, give him tablets to calm him down, have plug ins with herbs and pheromones and a tight fitting jacket. But the slightest hint and he's stressed, panting, shaking and whining with fear. He is so stressed by them he frequently throws up from all the shaking. It is heartbreaking to watch. I have worked so hard to prove to him it is safe. This year he's managed to cope with the quieter ones but the loud bomb-like ones terrify him and once he has heard those he thinks the quiet ones will mean the loud ones are coming. It takes him weeks to settle down and only takes one firework to set him off again.

35. TW10 Jacki

since late October there have been fireworks virtually every night ranging from the odd few to full blown displays. There can be several lots in one night. I have 2 dogs - a retired greyhound and a rescue lurcher. Both are terrified and are so sensitised now it only needs one bang to terrify them. In November. The greyhound developed severe gastroenteritis. And was an inpatient at the vets for five days on a drip. Nothing was cultured to indicate an infection and I am sure it was due to stress. The lurcher is terrified to go out in the evening even into the garden and has wee'd in the house on several occasions which he would never normally do. Years ago we were able to sedate our dogs on November 5th and New years eve but this is clearly not possible when they go on for so long and we have had very little success with using herbal type treatments. I understand a total ban is not going to happen but a restriction to organised events on specific occasions would be an enormous step in the right direction and help to relieve so much animal suffering.

36. TN27 Jan

Since the 31st October, most evenings in my sleepy village we have had hours of random fireworks. My dog is a nervous wreck. I have tried every product on the market. The only thing that helps slightly is diazepam prescribe by the vet. My dog trembles, his heart races, he paces, he drools & is inconsolable! He also has seizures brought on by stress! I worry that one day like many other terrified dogs his heart will pack up! It is not fair that he has to endure this every year!! I have of course signed the petition & emailed my MP... please keep this campaign up

37. TQ12 DG –Anon

In November we had fireworks going off in our estate 8 days in a row, at all times of the day. We have 2 rescue dogs and I am working from home as a translator. I work for British and American fashion clients and have to update their daily new products as soon as they come in (between 15:00 and 22:00 each day). This is a well paid full-time job that pays our mortgage. Because of the fireworks our dogs were terribly distressed. One sat in the corner shaking, the other was howling and constantly tried to jump up on my lap. Obviously, I couldn't concentrate nor work. For 8 days my husband locked himself into our bedroom with the barking dog as soon as he came back from work (at 17:10), so that I could do my daily work. If I don't deliver my jobs on time, I would lose the client and we would lose the house. 8 days we all had to suffer, the dogs, my husband (how had to spend his evenings locked into a tiny room with a distressed dog) and myself .. just because some idiots in our estate let fireworks off whenever they wanted. Thanks God, I managed to deliver my work on time this time - but it is very hard to translate 4000 words in only 5 hours instead of 7.

38. WA7 Kay

The ultimate impact that random fireworks has had on our dog Smithy – in the WA7 6 area – is that he fitted due to the stress they cause him. It was horrific to see; he was admitted as an emergency at our local vets at 7.30pm Friday 11th December – with the on call vet leaving the staff Christmas Party to attend to Smithy. He was put on emergence medication, tests were started straight away and he was closely observed overnight. He was distraught at us having to leave him there and for my husband and myself the grief of leaving him – not knowing what was going to happen – was very raw and all consuming.

Obviously this also has cost us a lot of money – another impact.

Other ways that are not insignificant about the impact of random fireworks:- · They happen during daylight! When that happens – or during the late afternoon – the stress that they cause Smithy (who barks, runs round, has bumped into things because he is so stressed up etc) means we have to leave our work to tend to and comfort him. We run our own business from home so the time we must give to Smithy means we don't get certain work done – this gets pushed into the weekends when we then have less time to spend with him – so it impacts our everyday lives and our family life together · When the fireworks go off during the evening it means Smithy doesn't do his pre-bed weewee. This means we wakes in the night and obviously we wake too, to let him out. This disrupts our sleep which impacts our day. When the fireworks go off late at night, we comfort Smithy and ultimately he then comes onto our bed – again sleep is disrupted for all and this impacts the next day, which is often a working day – ultimately again this will impact time that is supposed to be family time because we are always trying to catch up with work.

Seeing the stress and seeing that horrific fit has meant we will be cancelling a holiday we booked for a very special birthday next year. We hadn't had a holiday since 2007 and this one – in April – was designed for my special birthday and for my husband who has severe mobility issues. However we cannot bear the thought of leaving Smithy – even with people who love him – when he may become stressed and fit again. So we won't have a special holiday – or any holiday – without him.

Finally, as responsible dog owners we have done all we can to try to prepare for fireworks; Smithy has a thunder-jacket, we have used Adaptil in all its various forms. We have very good friends who are renowned dog trainers in Cheshire and since January 2015 we have taken their advice in training Smithy to deal with fireworks and thunder. He does very well – until the

actual REAL fireworks or thunder – and then it's as if there had been no training. We have had to resort to Xanax but that had no effect in November – the