

# **National Campaign for Firework Safety**

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## **Fireworks 2002**

A survey into how fireworks affected our daily lives in 2002



### **Foreword:**

I am delighted to introduce the Fireworks 2002 Report from the National Campaign for Firework Safety about the impact of fireworks use. I congratulate them for having carried out this research and brought together such a large number of media reports and other related material. It clearly demonstrates the depth of public concern around the United Kingdom about the misuse and abuse fireworks.

In bringing forward my Fireworks Bill I have researched, consulted and studied fireworks issues widely and the incidents catalogued are typical of many of which I have been made aware. I have been particularly concerned about the anti-social use of fireworks, distress and injuries to animals and the weaknesses in respect of the current system for the import and storage of fireworks. I have been heartened by the support the Bill has received and that people from both campaigning organisations and indeed from within the fireworks industry itself have recognised the need for action.

There is now a broad consensus for changes to how we deal with fireworks. I foresee a new regime where, acknowledging the legitimate use of fireworks, we respect them as the explosives that they are and would hope to see an end to many of the problems detailed in this report.

**Bill Tynan**  
**MP for Hamilton South**

# Fireworks 2002

In 2002 we issued the survey 'Fireworks 2001'. The information was taken from our 'Read all about It' web-pages of 2001, which is a collection of firework incidents reported in web-based newspapers. We have repeated this exercise, and have issued the 'Fireworks 2002' survey.

The survey is split into the following sections

**Abuse of fireworks**  
**Animals and Fireworks**  
**Complaints of noise**  
**Firework Accidents**  
**Firework used as weapons**  
**People who have spoke against fireworks**  
**Petitions for firework change**  
**Reader's Letters**

In each section you will read of the negative impact fireworks have on our daily lives. This proves the need for regulation, now no longer 'if', but a question of 'how much' regulation is needed. Bill Tynan MP has begun his quest to bring his Private Members Bill to fruition, and for the first time, since 1875, we hope we shall have strong enforceable Firework Laws.

In the early stages of the survey the researcher discovered the 'firework problem', is not one problem but many. The first five sections of the survey highlight these problems, whilst the final three sections shows the many voices being raised, all calling for an overhaul of the outdated firework laws.

The survey also includes Reader's Letters which show that the public are very concerned about the impact fireworks have on their daily lives, which, in many cases, bring misery.

## **Abuse of Fireworks.**

All fireworks on legal sale to the general public, in the United Kingdom, must conform to BS7114. This standard covers the way fireworks are manufactured. In all cases the seller of fireworks must be able to prove the firework indeed conforms to BS7114, by showing where he bought it from. This is called an 'audit trail'. By being able to show a fireworks 'audit trail' proves it does conform to BS7114.

It is, therefore, vital to be able to identify a faulty firework, and by using the 'audit trail' withdrawing other faulty fireworks, before any damage is done.

Many within the Firework Industry carry out such a practice, some however do not.

The Homebase store in Cheltenham had fireworks scattered around an office  
**August 13 2002, This is Gloucestershire, Store fined for firework breach**

There were many instances where shops had acted unprofessionally, and quite rightly suffered the consequences.

'Choose what you want'. Kennet

**April 18 2002, This is Wiltshire, Firm fined for selling firework to boy of 13**

All those involved in the manufacture, storage, delivering and selling of fireworks have a duty of care to act responsibly. Many fail badly, and bring disrepute to the Industry.

It is very important for local services to be aware of any firework stores within their area, so they can be properly controlled. To be able to sell fireworks to the general public a licence is required from your local authority. Two incidents from 'Read all about it' 2002 reported website newspaper pages, show otherwise. The two incidents are un-related, but do highlight the problem.

Milkmen are now offering nappies, newspapers, even fireworks from their float.  
**January 8 2002, icNewcastle, Milk float should be a general store on wheels**

and

Police are investigating how the firework came to be in the street. Sunderland  
**December 19 2002, Evening Chronicle, Two hurt by firework**

There were incidents which showed fireworks are being sold outside the legal framework. Fireworks have been stolen from shops, lorries and garden centres and these fireworks may have been sold from houses, backs of vans, pubs and car boot sales.

It is these fireworks, which may have been manufactured to BS7114, but because the 'audit trail' has been broken, the fireworks have lost their accreditation.

The most worrying aspect is where are these fireworks being stored, whilst awaiting their illegal sale.

It recovered more than eight tons of fireworks from an unlicensed store in the Dalmarnock  
**October 31, 2002, BBC News Scotland, Firework Complaints Rocket**

Police seized a cache of 1.200 fireworks from a mans home in Edinburgh  
**October 28 2002, Scottish Daily Express, Firework Sales Alarm,**

Police seized £5,000 worth of display fireworks during an early morning raid in Blackpool.  
**October 18 2002, This is Lancashire, Dawn swoop nets fireworks**

Police seized £10,000 of illegal fireworks containing four times more gunpowder than is allowed by law.  
**October 19 2002, icWales, Cardiff, Fireworks seized**

Many of these fireworks may have been made to BS7114, and may have been perfectly safe. We do not know. The problem is we are not aware of where, and how, they are stored.

## **Animals**

Together with their owners, animals continue to pay a high price when it comes to fireworks.  
This incident,

New Year festivities which left horses traumatised and caused a dog to disappear in panic  
**January 3 2002, This is Essex, Colchester, Pets traumatised by 2002 fireworks**

was the first in our 'Read all about It' web-pages for 2002, and the year finished off with,

The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association appeals to readers to sign our "Regulate Fireworks Now" petition,  
**December 30 2002, This is Lancashire, Don't forget pets as fireworks are set off**

For years cats and dogs have suffered by having fireworks tied to them, thrown at them, and in the year 2002 Megan, an eight year old Bull Terrier, was taught to play fetch with a firework, in Middleton, Greater Manchester, with tragic consequences.

In the year 2001, Rocky's death, the dog that tore it's own face off, heralded more complaints than ever about the sheer noise fireworks now make. No less tragic was this, which shows the negative effect of fireworks is no longer limited to cats and dogs.

One of his prized cows died during a corporate firework display. Little Budworth  
**November 15 2002, icCheshireOnline, Valuable cow dies after firework panic**

Both the RSPCA and the PDSA reported many animals being treated with firework-related injuries. But now there is a new phenomenon, firework noise. At present there is no upper limit on the noise a firework can make. There is enough evidence to show animals do not like fireworks because of the sheer noise they make. The RSPCA has brought out an excellent report entitled 'Quiet Please, loud fireworks frighten animals'. They looked at the problem of animals and firework noise and recommended a maximum of 95dB(A)l. This they decided would cause the least damage to animals.

The current Fireworks Bill, is beginning its passage through parliament. One of the clauses, 2 (2) (b), refers to 'distress' to animals. It is easier to measure the physical distress an animal suffers when a firework causes physical damage. But how shall we determine the mental 'distress' animals suffer when faced with noisy fireworks.

There is evidence to show animals do suffer 'distress' from the noise fireworks make. It is time a maximum

level of noise was set for every firework, in order to minimise the distress firework noise brings to our animals.

## **Complaints of noise.**

In our '**Firework Survey 2001**' the complaints numbered 18. In the last year there have been 41 complaints registered as part of the newspaper story. This does not include the many 'Reader's Letters' of complaint. The first complaint,

Not letting residents living nearby know about the event before. Colchester  
**January 3 2002, This is Essex, Colchester, Pets traumatised by 2002 fireworks**

The amount of noise fireworks make has now become a separate firework problem.

Leicester City Council had 56 complaints about noisy fireworks.  
**August 31 2002, This is Leicestershire, Cracking plan to cut noise**

As well as noisy fireworks, there is evidence fireworks are being discharged at un-social hours.

Disturbed at 3am on Monday . Shirley  
**July 26 2002, This is Solihull, Fury over late night fireworks**

Exeter families fed-up with fireworks keeping them awake through the night  
**August 6 2002, This is Devon, Residents have had enough of late-night noise**

There is a difference between a firework of 120dB(A)I being set-off in the middle of a firework display, where it's noise may not be so noticeable amongst the tumult, but, it will have a different response, when discharged in the dead of night. The apparent loudness of the firework will be many times greater.

Many people say they can feel the house shake with the vibration during noisy firework discharges. In August came this rather disturbing report,

A structural expert claims vibrations from fireworks celebrations are damaging Edinburgh's old buildings. Arnold Hendry believes the tonnes of explosives used to mark the Edinburgh Festival, Hogmanay and military Tattoo are dislodging pieces of masonry. Leisure chief, Councillor Steve Cardownie, is backing calls for an investigation into the impact of fireworks.  
**August 2 2002, icScotland , Fireworks may be cause of building damage**

As fireworks become more and more powerful, surely we cannot allow the slow destruction of our historic buildings to continue. This must be a consideration for lowering the 'explosive' nature of fireworks. If there is a case to be made, for saying loud fireworks damage buildings over a long period of time, then who should pay for the costs of repairing these buildings. Until we know for certain that loud explosive fireworks of the category 4 nature, as used in Edinburgh's celebrations, do not cause damage then limiting the 'explosive' type fireworks should be a priority.

## **Firework Accidents.**

Only three months were firework reported accident free. When one thinks of the tragedy at the Rhode Island Night club, we have been extremely lucky. But fireworks have caused 3 deaths in the year. The first occurred when,

A pregnant woman lost her baby after a firework hit her the stomach. Greater Manchester  
**November 5 2002, ManchesterOnline, Boy's hand blown off by rocket**

The others were two ladies, one of which was knocked down by a youth fleeing from a firework incident,

Died after she was knocked to the ground moments after a firework was let off  
**November 11 2002, icHuddersfield, Death tragedy Two arrested**

The other lady was too frightened to use the 'safer' route of an underpass, because youths were throwing fireworks around.

Crossed the road instead of the underpass because youths had been letting off fireworks in the subway  
**November 13 2002, icCheshireOnline, Northwich, Fear of yobs ends in death**

These deaths are a result of fireworks being freely available.

It may be argued that some accidents result as a misuse of fireworks by the firer, but not all can be construed as such. On the first day of the new year,

A faulty indoor firework sparked a fire in a night-club's ducting on Bridge Street, Bolton,  
**January 1 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework starts blaze**

There is now an added element to firework accidents.

According to BS7114 Category 3 fireworks, "When used according to the instructions, these fireworks should not cause injury to people standing 25 m or more away. People firing these fireworks would be expected to wear suitable protection."

The firework crashed through the glass over the breakfast room, in Stoulton, at about 10pm.  
**February 5 2002, This is Worcestershire, Apology after firework went through roof**

A deadly firework crashed through a conservatory roof and hit a terrified 10-year-old girl. Lostock Hall  
**November 5 2002, Preston Today, Rocket blasts through roof**

It hit it with enough force to break a neighbour's roof tile and set fire to the felt underneath."  
**November 11 2002, This is Oxfordshire, Stray firework damages roof**

These three incidents demonstrate how fireworks have now become a hazard when returning to earth. In each of these cases, a firework upon returning to earth, would have caused "injury to people standing 25m or more away", and therefore failed to meet the requirements of BS7114.

Residents fear someone could be maimed or killed by metal-tipped fireworks. Braunstone  
**November 22 2002, This is Leicestershire, 'Ban dangerous fireworks'**

If we allow fireworks to be made of a more solid nature then we are increasing the risk of many more accidents as a result of rockets returning to earth and striking someone.

In cases, where fireworks have caused damage, to roofs and other property, it is up to the owner of the property to recoup the cost of the damage through their insurance, whilst the firer and the firework companies, remain in 'not-me-guv' mode.

More time and effort must be placed on firework design to ensure they do not cause a hazard outside the 25 metre danger zone. Fireworks failing that test, should be refused qualification to BS7114.

### **Firework used as weapons.**

We have sub-divided this group into 6 categories.

- a Fireworks used against firefighters
- b Fireworks used against people
- c Fireworks used against people in houses
- d Fireworks used against police
- e Fireworks used for terror
- f Fireworks used in vandalism

This section shows how fireworks are now being used by certain sections of the general public.

Unfortunately, all these activities have been unhindered for many years, and now are seen by certain members of the public as part and parcel of the firework season. The acceptance of the so called 'Mischief Night' allows this minority the excuse to wreak havoc on the general public.

#### **a Fireworks used against firefighters**

We wrote to though Fire Brigade asking for the official figures of incidents involving fireworks being thrown at firefighters, but we were told they do not keep such records. Our 'Read All About' pages, for 2002, shows there were 13 incidents reported. Here are some of the incidents.

Fireworks were hurled at firefighters as they were attempting to put out a grass fire in Kirkby.  
**October 2 2002, icLiverpool, Firefighters attacked by jobs**

Jobs hurled fireworks at firefighters tackling a blaze at an allotment.

## **October 9 2002, icNewcastle, 999 crew attacked**

Firefighters came under attack from youths armed with rockets and other powerful fireworks on a dimly-lit Bolton street.

### **October 14 2002, This is Lancashire, Firemen blasted by rockets**

In Hamilton, a crew were hit with fireworks as they fought a blaze.

### **October 30 2002, Daily Mirror, Firemen Attacked by Gang**

Thugs hurled fireworks at firefighters who were called out to a caravan fire.

### **November 1 2002, This is Nottingham, Thugs target firefighters**

A gang of jobs attacked fire crews with a barrage of fireworks as they tackled a blaze.

### **November 6 2002, ManchesterOnline, Terror attack by firework thugs**

At least two firefighters have been injured after missiles and fireworks were thrown at them during Bonfire Night attacks.

### **November 6, 2002, BBC News Scotland, Fire Crews Attacked on Bonfire Night**

The practise of starting a fire and then targeting the attending firefighters is now so common-place, that the researcher believes it is not newsworthy in the eyes of the newspapers. Firefighters in their protective clothing, can, in a very small way, tolerate such activity, but with fireworks becoming more powerful, it is just a matter of time before we have our first fatality among the firefighters.

## **b Fireworks used against people**

There were 35 incidents where people have been the target of firework abusing users. Here are six incidents

"Jumping Jack" fireworks were hurled at terrified commuters and drinkers.

### **June 3 2002, This is York, Firework gang in station rumpus**

To throwing a firework at a woman.

### **June 29 2002, This Is Lancashire, Youths banned from town centre**

A grandad had his finger blown off when a hooded thug hurled a powerful firework at him.

### **October 2 2002, This is The North East, Grandad's finger blown off as thug throws firework**

She was with a group of other girls when a boy threw the firework at her.

### **October 9 2002, Greenock Telegraph Online, Girl injured in firework horror**

"All I was told was that it was someone who came out of the pub who threw the firework at Sarah."

### **October 11 2002, Birmingham Evening Mail, Firework girl's agony**

Terrified passengers including a woman seven months pregnant cowered as a lit firework thrown by a gang of youths rocketed through their busy tube carriage.

### **October 25 2002, Local London, Passengers terrified by firework gang**

Anyone of these incidents could have had fatalities. The possible consequences of the incident involving fireworks inside a London Tube carriage, are terrifying.

## **c Fireworks used against people in houses**

There were sixty incidents reported in our 'Read All About It' pages where lit fireworks were introduced into a house when in some circumstances it was known people were inside. The letter-box has been a traditional entry point.

A firework pushed through the door.

### **January 3 2002, Surrey on-line, Young wreckers plaguing village**

Yobs pushed a firework through the sleeping family's letterbox early yesterday.

### **August 5 2002, This is the North East, Mum praised after firework attack**

An arsonist pushed a burning firework through their letterbox last night.

### **October 12 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework pushed through letterbox**

A blaze which devastated a Slaithwaite firm may have been caused by a firework pushed under the door.

### **October 16 2002, icHuddersfield, 'Wrecked by a firework'**

Widower Leonard Brown spoke of his shock today after a firework was put through his door.

**October 16 2002, Greenock Telegraph, Yobs hurl rockets at firemen**

But now the firework abusers are using other means,

Police are hunting mindless vandals who risked causing a major blaze by shattering the living room window of a family home and throwing in a lighted firework.

**October 17 2002, East Lothian Courier Lighted firework is thrown into house**

Residents at a house in Windmill Road, Longford, were targeted by yobs who threw a lit firework through a broken window.

**October 23 2002, icCoventry, Concern over firework pranks**

They tossed two fireworks through an open window of the students' dormitory.

**November 6 2002, icNewcastle, Police probing firework attack**

Not only houses are being targeted,

A blaze which devastated a Slaithwaite firm may have been caused by a firework pushed under the door.

**October 16 2002, icHuddersfield, 'Wrecked by a firework'**

A lit firework was thrown into a vet's surgery in Appleton during the early hours of Tuesday morning.

**October 17 2002, This is Cheshire, Firecracker explosion damages vet's surgery**

Poolbrook Primary School in Malvern has escaped with minor damage after pranksters put a lit firework through a letterbox.

**October 23 2002, This is Worcestershire, Plea is made on fireworks**

A firebug set off a firework in a communal hall at the flats, setting light to a pram at about 2.20pm on Sunday.

**October 23 2002, This is Trafford, Firefighters rescue toddler and baby**

A 15-year-old boy who pushed a lighted firework into the letterbox at Conwy police station for a dare.

**October 31 2002, iDaily Post, Firework prank,**

The building in Ilminster was damaged after a firework was set off in the entrance hall.

**October 31, 2002, BBCi Teletext, Firework badly charity building**

A firework was also pushed through the letterbox of Jades Chinese Takeaway.

**November 5 2002, icSurreyOnline, 'Trick or treat' terror**

Yobs hurled exploding fireworks through the windows of a church, smashing glass and causing hundreds of pounds of damage.

**November 6 2002, Express and Star, Fireworks are thrown into church**

Terry Sayer runs a travel agents in Brownhill, Blackburn, where youths posted a rocket through the letterbox.

**November 9 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework plea**

Police are hunting arsonists who pushed a burning firework through the letterbox of a Halesowen firm over the weekend.

**November 11 2002, This is The Black Country, Firework attack on firm**

There is sufficient evidence to prove that fireworks in the hands of the 'hooligan' element of our society are very, very dangerous. Each of the sixty incidents could have ended with loss of life. We have been very lucky so far. Just how long can our luck hold?

**d Fireworks used against police**

There were 16 reported incidents where fireworks have been targeted at our police force. It is well known in Northern Ireland, fireworks have been thrown at police and security forces, but now it is beginning to happen here.

Threatening police with a firework

**January 17 2002, This is Lancashire, Man denies threat to burn police**

Held a firework at waist height "like a gun" before firing it at police horses.

**March 2 2002, This is Bradford, Jail for rioter who used firework 'like a gun'**

A group of about 50 hooligans began raining down fireworks and flares on the police.

**May 3 2002, icBirmingham, 50 police hurt on night of hate**

There was soccer violence at Millwall,



"You don't just chance upon thunder flashes and fireworks."

**May 8 2002, icSouthLondon, We will see off the scum**

Police were attacked with bricks, paving stones, flares and fireworks.

**May 12 2002, icScotland, Police issue six more Millwall riot photos**

And then just 'normal' violence,

A 14-year-old youth was cautioned after fireworks were thrown at a patrol car.

**October, 24 2002, BBC News, Police in fireworks attack**

Police have come under attack from a gang of yobs hurling fireworks.

**November 5 2002, Burton Mail, Fireworks attack on cops**

A police chief today compared a town to Beirut after "the worst Bonfire Night in his 28 years as an officer". A squad car was one of seven vehicles torched in Bulwell last night.

**November 6 2002, This is Nottingham, Police Chief says, 'It was like Beirut'**

Police officers in St Paul's were subjected to a barrage of industrial-sized fireworks deliberately aimed at them by groups of youths.

**November 7 2002, This is Bristol, Targeted by fireworks**

Earlier in this survey we referred to how common-place the attacks on firefighters are becoming, is it now spilling over into attacks against the police?

### **e Fireworks used for terror**

There were 62 incidents, where fireworks were used to terrorise. Here are a few.

A man who threw a fire bomb in a busy city centre, thought to be a ballcock packed with fireworks.

**March 2 2002, Daily Mirror, Fire Bomb City Scare**

The package was now believed to be a professional firework rather than a bomb.

**March 5 2002, IcHuddersfield, Blast drama after chase**

A firework was hurled into a church meeting room

**March 22 2002, IcBirmingham, Church knife horror**

The giant roman candle exploded after being thrown into the premises.

**March 26 2002, IcBirmingham, Men sent down for firework attack**

Two teenagers have been banned from using fireworks after terrorising locals for more than a year.

**September 11 2002, Manchester Online, Fireworks ban for teen louts**

A firework containing a series of smaller firecrackers was thrown on to the pitch.

**October 8 2002, Times Online, Bigots face tough new laws after Old Firm violence**

Shoppers were left terrified when louts launched fireworks at a shop on a troubled Southampton estate.

**October 9 2002, This is Hampshire, Thugs target shop in firework attack**

A car drove past at 9pm and a firework was thrown from the window.

**October 9 2002, Salford Advertiser, 999 man's firework ordeal**

Youngsters in Eric Avenue, Thornaby, held a running battle, hurling fireworks at each other.

**October 9 2002, icTeesside, Fireworks ban call**

He dropped a large rocket on the floor and rode out, leaving it to explode into the wooden ceiling.

**October 11 2002, This is The North East, Fireworks pranksters condemned**

Two pubs and a restaurant reported incidents where fireworks were thrown at customers.

**October 12 2002, This Is Bradford, Fireworks thrown in attacks**

Yobs in Ashgill were accused of hurling stones, bricks and fireworks at buses.

**October 12 2002, icLanarkshire, Don't let the yobs kill off our vital bus link**

The gang hurled lit fireworks at pedestrians and into shops during a horrifying rampage through the streets.

**October 14 2002, Leeds Today, Fireworks from MP**

A gang of BMX riding youths in Heslington Road, York, are said to have thrown the lit firework in the direction of the woman.  
**October 22 2002, This is York, Police warn fiends of fire danger**

The misuse of fireworks has turned one area of Taunton into a virtual war zone.  
**October 31, 2002 Bath Chronicle, Cars wrecked in Halcon 'war zone'**

and potentially, the most damaging incident of all,

The safety of passengers is being jeopardised by maniacs launching fireworks at planes landing at Manchester Airport.  
**October 22 2002, Manchester Online, Firework jobs put jets in peril**

These incidents highlight one of the many problems we have within our society. Because fireworks can be used in this manner, then certain people will use them this way. The minority who use fireworks in this way, should not be confused with the vast majority of ordinary people who celebrate Guy Fawkes Night on November 5th.

But we must tackle the problem of firework abuse.

### **f Fireworks used in vandalism**

There were fifty reported incidents of vandalism. We have defined this section as vandalism, where there does not appear to be risk to anyone's life.

We asked the Royal Mail how many of their post boxes etc, were damaged by fireworks and we received a reply saying they did not keep records of how many were damaged, or the cost of replacing them.

There seems to be a popular practise of 'blowing up' pillar boxes.

The fire brigade was called out to deal with a blaze in a post-box caused by a lit firework.  
**June 11 2002, This is North Scotland, Firework caused post-box blaze**

A powerful firework thrown into a mailbox on Leicester's Saffron estate exploded with such force it cracked the box's cast iron casing.

**October 21 2002, Leicester Mercury, Post box firework attack sparks danger warning**

Firefighters from Gipton station have tackled four blazes in post boxes in the space of two days, all caused by fireworks being shoved through the letter slots.

**October 24 2002, Leeds Today, Post boxes targeted in firework attacks, By Charles Heslett**

In Graham Avenue, Patcham, fireworks were put into a Royal Mail letter box. They exploded, blowing off the door and scattering post over the street.

**November 1 2002, This is Brighton & Hove, Family's Hallowe'en firework shock**

Locals in a Black Isle town thought a modern-day Guy Fawkes was at work when a metal post box exploded and sprayed the surrounding area with potentially lethal debris.

**November 7 2002, The Highland News, Police probe post box blast**

Windows and walls shook as thugs caused a massive explosion which ripped apart a cast iron pillar box.

**November 19 2002, icSurreyOnline, Vandals blow up postbox**

Vandals used fireworks to blow up a village postbox last Friday. Teenagers dumped so many lit fireworks into the Royal Mail box that the shutter blew off, scattering letters all over the street.

**November 21 2002, icNorthWales, Vandals blow up postbox**

Christmas mail was left charred after a firework blew up a postbox.

**December 3 2002, This is Local London, Lit firework in postbox**

Post Boxes are not the sole target,

Fireworks were let off in a wheelie bin in Mill Street, Rocester.

**April 4 2002, Burton Mail, Hunt on for phone box blast vandals**

and one of many telephone kiosks that were damaged

Heard a "pop," and then a "boom," as a Chinese firework went off in the kiosk at Waterfoot.

**May 25 2002, This is Lancashire, Man, 19, caged over 'vicious' attack**

Cars were also attacked,

A stolen display firework was attached to a car and detonated in Collyhurst, Manchester.  
**October 5 2002, This is Lancashire, Brigade chief's warning over fireworks misuse**

Youths also smashed a car window in Owlwood Drive, Little Hulton, and placed a firework on the back seat.  
**October 12 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework pushed through letterbox**

Somerset Fire Brigade have dealt with five car fires which they believe involves fireworks.  
**October 31, 2002, BBCi Teletext, Firework badly charity building**

A car was seriously damaged by youths who placed a powerful firework inside it in Charlestown.  
**October 2002, Manchester News, Terror attack by firework thugs**

Fireworks are being abused. The power of fireworks is being used to cause much damage in our society. If we minimise the power in fireworks, then that will reduce their use in abusive ways.

### **People who have spoke against fireworks.**

Included are the many people have spoken out against fireworks. Politicians (60), from all sides of the political arena. Scottish MSP's, and Welsh members of parliament have all spoken out against fireworks. We have recorded one MEP, in our 'Read All About It' pages.

It is not only the politicians who have voiced their concern but many members of the Local Government, councillors, Police, Fire Chiefs, as well as the Animal Welfare groups such as RSPCA, SSPCA, PDSA, Guide Dogs for the Blind Association.

These people and organisations all have differing solutions, but all start with the same premise, something has to be done about fireworks.

And from within the firework industry,

**John Woodhead, Chairman, British Fireworks Association**  
Called for tighter import controls  
**March 4 2002, IcHuddersfield, 'No firework ban' praised**

The solutions offered are wide and varied,  
from a total ban,

**Michael Todd, Chief constable, Greater Manchester**  
Backed our campaign by voting for a total ban.  
**December 13 2002, Manchester Evening News, Our own fire chief constable backs total ban**

**Oliver Johnson, Councillor, Middlesbrough**  
Said a total ban on fireworks was the only answer to the problem.  
**November 15 2002, icTeesside, Ban firework sales**

to a ban on retail sales

**Joan Ryan, Enfield North MP, Labour**  
Is campaigning for a complete ban on the sale of fireworks.  
**September 26 2002, This is Local London, Fireworks campaigners say, Get wise or get hurt**

**Stuart Jones, Public relations officer, Nottingham branch of the National Federation of the Blind**  
We believe there should be a total ban on fireworks being sold in the shops.  
**October 16 2002, This is Nottingham, Spare a thought for the people you scare**

To a partial ban

**Pamela Pearson, founder Prevent Unwanted Pets animal welfare charity**  
Wants the Government to slap a total ban on large fireworks which cause excessive levels of noise and distress.  
**April 12 2002, This is Lancashire, Call for new laws on firework sales**

other restrictions include

**Stan Tennant, Councillor, Central Buchan, Scottish Nationalist Party**  
wants sales restricted to authorised people in charge of organised displays.  
**April 24 2002, This is North Scotland, New bid to ban sale of fireworks to public**

**Sue Marbrow, Councillor, East Staffordshire**

wants to see the legal age for buying fireworks increased to 21.

**April 25 2002, Burton Mail, New call to change the firework laws**

**David Watkins, The Mayor of Brighton and Hove**

has called for a ban on late-night fireworks in historic squares.

**August 20 2002, This is Brighton and Hove, Mayor calls for late-night fireworks ban**

**John Thompson, Police Chief Superintendent, divisional commander for Eastern Division,**

Called for tighter legislation on the sale of fireworks, including a complete ban on newsagents selling them, to halt the annual drain on officers' time.

**September 20 2002, This is Lancashire, Crackdown on fireworks kids**

**Archie Graham, Councillor, Glasgow**

"We believe organised displays in a controlled environment are the only safe way to enjoy fireworks."

**September 22 2002, Sunday Mail, Ban the Bangers Councils demand sales crackdown**

Many local newspapers have set up their own campaigns, after being urged to do so by their readers. Most notable are,

**Leicester Mercury**  
**Manchester Evening News**  
**Nottingham Evening Post**  
**Yorkshire Evening Post**

Their reporters and journalists are working very hard, campaigning to have fireworks brought under stricter control. These, and many other reporters, whose efforts are in our 'Read All About It' pages, from which this survey is made, are owed a debt of gratitude by the National Campaign of Firework Safety. We are very happy to acknowledge that debt, for without their efforts, this survey would not be possible.

## **Petitions for firework change**

There have been many types of petitions against fireworks.

From

The 200,000-name petition, organised by Labour MP for Brent North Barry Gardiner, is to be delivered to Downing Street on October 16.

**October 11 2002, Burton Mail, MP joins fight on fireworks,**

to the smaller

A Campaign in Blyth Valley to control firework sales has been backed by more than 1,700 people.

**December 16 2002, Evening Chronicle, Firework ban is backed by 1,700**

Many people have shown their intolerance of the current situation by raising petitions amongst themselves and handing them to their MP or local councillor.

Included here are the many 'polls' that have taken place.

We asked yesterday if you thought that the sale of fireworks to the public should be banned. An overwhelming majority of you said that they should

YES 98%

NO 2%

**October 12 2002, Manchester Evening News, How you voted on fireworks**

A phone poll showed an overwhelming 94% of voters - 466 callers - called for a ban on fireworks on general sale. Only 6% - 28 callers - believed they should not be banned.

**October 30 2002, Preston Today, Ban them now!**

An astounding 99 per cent of you want tougher legislation on fireworks.

**November 9 2002, icWales, Blast off**

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals carried out their own poll.

A MORI poll for the RSPCA shows 71 per cent of those questioned thought loud fireworks should be restricted to public displays.

**November 4 2002, ManchesterOnline, Stay Safe campaign wins backing**

All show there is public support for tighter restrictions on fireworks.

## **Reader's Letters**

In the newspapers we have used for our 'Read All About It' pages have been many readers letters, and the vast majority were for major changes in firework regulations.

Only in the months of February and April were the newspapers free from complaints about fireworks. Here is a selection from each month.

### **January 10 2002, Evening Post, Letters, Why I want a firework ban.**

I would just like to say that I am in total favour of a firework ban. It's now January 5, 2002, 10pm and two more have just been set off. I can only think the people setting them off are selfish inconsiderate morons, so the sooner a total ban is introduced the better.

K C, Bramcote

### **March 11 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Home-made bangers are not the issue**

MPs need to understand that lip-service is not enough. If there is no effective action well before the next election we should make it an election issue.

R C Radcliffe-on-Trent

### **May 7 2002, icScotland, Roy's rocket**

Those terrible explosions we hear, not just on Guy Fawkes' night but month after month, are getting out of hand.

Mrs R. L, Glasgow.

### **June 14 2002, This is Nottingham, Why fireworks?**

I heard fireworks going on June 3 (why?)

G. A. Wollaton Vale

### **July 16 2002, This is Leeds, The Firework Menace must be stopped**

Once again I have been woken late at night and nearly scared to death by extremely loud bangs,

S DS, Leeds 5.

### **August 22 2002, This is Brighton and Hove, Boring bangs**

The great explosive reverberations frankly frighten me.

M. P. Brighton and Hove,

### **September 16 2002, Express and Star, Please end this annual misery**

Is it too much to ask this government littered with failures to stop the sale of fireworks,

JT, West Bromwich.

### **October 4 2002, This is Nottingham, A rocket for retailer**

I have written to a local retailer who has been selling half-price fireworks five weeks before Guy Fawkes' Day, asking whether their behaviour is responsible and justifiable,

S. B. Keyworth

### **November 1 2002, This is Lancashire, Ban sale of explosives**

Banning the sale of what are basically explosives to the general public. If we only pull together and make our voices heard, we can beat this problem once and for all.

J. W. Darwen.

### **December 18 2002, This is Local London, Take firework action**

Since the last week of September to quite recently, we have had to listen to these explosions at all times of the day.

C. C. New Addington

Many readers letters urged others to write to MP's, Local Councillors etc and voice their own firework complaints.

## **Findings of Firework 2002**

Many Fireworks are unable to be verified as conforming to BS7114.

Many Non BS7114 fireworks are being sold.

Many Fireworks are losing their BS7114 accreditation.

Many Fireworks are being stored in an unsafe manner.

Many Fireworks are being sold in an unsafe manner.

Many Fireworks are 'unreliable' when used in a correct and safe manner.

Many Fireworks are becoming a greater hazard.

Many Fireworks are now becoming too loud.

More attention must be paid to firework design.

**April 2003 - Copyright of National Campaign for Firework Safety**

## Abuse of Fireworks

Milkmen are now offering nappies, newspapers, even fireworks from their float.  
**January 8 2002, icNewcastle, Milk float should be a general store on wheels**

They were lying loose on the stall - "a disaster waiting to happen". Watnall  
**February 26 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Bang to Rights!**

'Choose what you want'. Kennet  
**April 18 2002, This is Wiltshire, Firm fined for selling firework to boy of 13**

Home-based manufacturing jobs such as fireworks, matches or incense sticks. Worldwide  
**May 7 2002, icWales, Report shows extent of child labour**

The Homebase store in Cheltenham had fireworks scattered around an office  
**August 13 2002, This is Gloucestershire, Store fined for firework breach**

A 14-year-old child bought fireworks. South Normanton  
**September 7 2002, Evening Post, Men fined for firework sale**

Pupils have been suspended from a Colchester school for letting off fireworks.  
**September 20 2002, This is Essex, Colchester Pupils suspended over fireworks**

Newsagent chain RS McColl, who were also flouting the code, remained defiant  
**September 22 2002, Sunday Mail, ASDA order fireworks off shelves**

We already are having to put up with it now, four o'clock in the morning they go off  
**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

One shop sold fireworks to him and it could prove to be an expensive mistake. Nottingham  
**October 8 2002, This is Nottingham, Shopkeeper fails firework age test**

Fireworks and other illegal items were recovered by police at the Nutt's Corner market in Co Antrim  
**October 12 2002, Belfast Telegraph, Police Bid to Smoke out illegal fireworks**

"There is no excuse - any system is only as good as its weakest link." Newbury  
**October 16 2002, icBerkshire, Shops sold fireworks to children**

A Black Country pub selling fireworks could be a recipe for disaster. Wolverhampton  
**October 17 2002, Express and Star, Alarm over pub firework sale plan**

Police seized £5,000 worth of display fireworks during an early morning raid in Blackpool.  
**October 18 2002, This is Lancashire, Dawn swoop nets fireworks**

Police seized £10,000 of illegal fireworks containing four times more gunpowder than is allowed by law.  
**October 19 2002, icWales, Cardiff, Fireworks seized**

More than £9,000 worth of fireworks were stolen in a raid on a garden centre at Handcross.  
**October 24 2002, This is Mid Sussex, Raiders' firework haul**

J Sainsbury's in Parsonage Way in Leigh lost around £5,000 worth  
**October 24 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework warning for shopkeepers**

Selling pets and fireworks saying bosses at the Stourton shop "must know better".  
**October 24 2002, Express and Star, Anger over pet shop's sale of fireworks**

Police in West Cumbria are warning shopkeepers not to sell fireworks to youngsters  
**October 25 2002, The News & Star, Shops told not to sell fireworks to children**

But is it horror that a child was able to buy potentially lethal rockets and bangers, or horror at being found out?  
**October 28 2002, Scottish Daily Express, Scotland, Profits before safety**

Eight out of 10 outlets sold potentially lethal rockets and bangers to 15-year-old. Scotland  
**October 28 2002, Scottish Daily Express, Firework Sales Alarm**

Police seized a cache of 1,200 fireworks from a man's home in Edinburgh  
**October 28 2002, Scottish Daily Express, Firework Sales Alarm**

Tesco in Ocotal Way even offered Emma Oaten extra rockets as part of a two for one offer. Swindon  
**October 31 2002, This is Wiltshire, Fireworks sold to girl, 13**

Sold to youngsters from the back of a van and a car boot in Wythenshawe.  
**October 31 2002, Manchester Online, Fireworks being sold to kids seized**

Four city shopkeepers could face fines of up to £5,000, after being caught selling fireworks to children.  
**October 31 2002, Leicester Mercury, Traders facing fines for flouting fireworks law**

We will continue to fight to protect children from buying dangerous fireworks. Coventry  
**October 31 2002, icCoventry, Store not guilty in fireworks sale case**

We've already found evidence of illegal sales. Norfolk  
**October 31 2002, Evening News 24, Crackdown on firework sales to kids**

Almost 2,000 incidents involving fireworks have been reported. Strathclyde  
**October 31, 2002, BBC News, Scotland, Firework Complaints Rocket**

It recovered more than eight tons of fireworks from an unlicensed store in the Dalmarnock  
**October 31, 2002, BBC News Scotland, Firework Complaints Rocket**

Strathclyde Police have seized tons of fireworks  
**October 31, 2002, BBC News Scotland, Firework Complaints Rocket**

The misuse of fireworks has turned one area of Taunton into a virtual war zone  
**October 31, 2002 Bath Chronicle, Cars wrecked in Halcon 'War Zone'**

"These two were extremely lucky and could have easily lost a limb or their eyesight". Galmpton  
**November 1 2002, This is Devon, 'Bomb' Prank Boys Escape**

A bag of fireworks, eggs, flour and bottles of alcohol were seized from children as young as 12. Fishpond  
**November 1 2002, This is Bristol, Family escape in firework terror**

Megan, an 11-year-old crossbreed, was so terrified by the explosions. Shipley  
**November 1 2002, This is Bradford, RSPCA calls for noise ban after dog is hurt**

Even I wondered what on earth was going on from inside the house. Tarporley  
**November 1 2002, icCheshireOnline, Horse bolted into barbed fence after firework display**

Explosive experts say the 1,500 Shot Strato Storm, which is manufactured in China, would easily kill a child  
**November 2 2002, ManchesterOnline, Greater Manchester, A killer for sale**



3 stores belonging to Britain's top supermarket chains have been caught out selling fireworks to underage kids

**November 3, 2002, Sunday Sun, North East, Big three flout ban**

Four retailers in Warrington have been caught selling fireworks to children

**November 5 2002, This is Cheshire, Shops sold fireworks to children**

A lorry container holding fireworks worth about £15,000 have been stolen. Edinburgh

**November 5 2002, BBC News, Haul of fireworks stolen**

There were fireworks being let off within the spectators, not by the organisers, but by teenagers. Heaton Park

**November 5, 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

30 boxes of fireworks, were handed to trading standards officers by car boot stall holder. Lea Marston

**November 6 2002, icCoventry,- Officers seize boot sale fireworks**

Two tons of rockets and bangers worth £20,000 went up in flames at a secret location in Barby

**November 6 2002, icCoventry,- Concern over missing fireworks**

Up to six traders caught selling fireworks to underage children in the Rotherham area

**November 7 2002, Rotherham Advertiser, Firework traders face fines of £5,000**

It is too easy for children to get hold of fireworks. Skipton

**November 8 2002, This is Bradford, Town wants clampdown on fireworks**

Four out of 13 shops sold alcohol to the 15-year old volunteers, and one out of six sold fireworks.

**November 8 2002, Express and Star, Staffordshire - Traders trapped in blitz on illegal sales**

Shops are being urged to stick to voluntary restrictions when they sell fireworks. West Yorkshire

**November 20 2002, icHuddersfield, Firework sales plea to shops**

Residents fear someone could be maimed or killed by metal-tipped fireworks. Braunstone

**November 22 2002, This is Leicestershire, 'Ban dangerous fireworks'**

A man who set off a firework in a York street

**December 5 2002, This is York, Fireworks man is fined**

A number of city shops still selling fireworks more than a month after November 5. Exeter

**December 10 2002, This is Devon, Councillor demanding limit on firework sales**

August this year, thousands of residents in Exwick were woken up by a 20-minute display after 2am

**December 10 2002, This is Devon, Councillor demanding limit on firework sales**

Conviction of a trader for allowing a 12-year-old girl to buy an airbomb. Bolton

**December 13 2002, This is Lancashire, Traders will be prosecuted for under-age sales**

Police are investigating how the firework came to be in the street. Sunderland

**December 19 2002, Evening Chronicle, Two hurt by firework**

## **Animals and Fireworks**

New Year festivities which left horses traumatised and caused a dog to disappear in panic  
**January 3 2002, This is Essex, Colchester, Pets traumatised by 2002 fireworks**

Lost their beloved dog Barney on New Year's Eve when he ran away, scared by a mighty bang.  
**January 10 2002, This is Cheshire, Thelwall, Firework noise is bang out of order for pets**

It took my youngest cat two hours to pluck up the courage to venture back out from behind the sofa.  
**January 18 2002, This is Wiltshire, Swindon, Let's keep fireworks for displays**

Such a regular weekend occurrence that vets have been inundated with freaked-out pets. Brighton  
**February 28 2002, This is Brighton and Hove, Vets cure pets' firework phobia**

Every year the RSPCA deals with hundreds of firework-related emergency calls.  
**May 2 2002, This is Lancashire, Fireworks appeal**

Is May, a beautiful three-months old filly foal, the first victim of fireworks in 2002? Ibstock.  
**August 10 2002, This is Leicestershire, First fireworks victim of 2002**

She lost part of her intestine when vicious thugs tied fireworks to her. Tyldesley  
**September 2 2002, Manchester Online, Salute for brave Rosie**

Aberdeen mum is calling for tighter controls on the sale of fireworks after a pet dog was scared to death.  
**September 27 2002, This is North Scotland, Fireworks scared pet dog to death**

It's a year-round problem where we live and something needs to be done. Leeds  
**September 30 2002, Leeds Today, Blunkett fireworks challenge**

End of October and mid November last year, the RSPCA received 776 reports of firework related incidents  
**September 30 2002, Leeds Today, Blunkett fireworks challenge**

However to pets and wildlife this time can represent a harrowing ordeal. London  
**October 2002, Parkvets, Fireworks Please Remember the Animals**

Yobs plaguing an estate shoved a firework down a duck's throat. Bilston  
**October 2 2002, Express and Star, Firework pushed in throat of duck**

Dog has been put back to square one in recent weeks by repeated noise from the explosives. Aberdeen  
**October 3 2002, This is North Scotland Bonfire Night may be the end**

One of my dogs is terrified of the noise, and it can go on all day. Leeds  
**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

I take my dog to the woods every day I can't let her off the lead as she is terrified. Leeds  
**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

Every night this week my cat has been terrified by the bangs. Leeds  
**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

Our dog is a shivering wreck when he hears the bangs. Leeds  
**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

The taunting teenagers made the terrier believe it was a stick they were throwing.  
**October 11 2002, Manchester Online, Dog is killed by firework thugs**

Cruel thugs killed a dog by getting it to play "fetch" with a powerful firework. Middleton  
**October 12 2002, Daily Mirror, Dog dies as thugs play fetch with a firework** by Paul Byrne

Many horses are terrified by the sight and sound of fireworks. The British Horse Society  
**October 14 2002, This is Bristol, Fireworks Organisers urged to use Horse Sense**

Blue Cross is concerned about the effect of noisy fireworks on pets.  
**October 15 2002, icNewcastle, Fireworks ban backed**

Boom! The first air-bomb of the year explodes outside and it's only mid-September.  
**October 15 2002, Parkvets, Fireworks, Pets Hate Them!**

Many people are understandably worried about their pets reaction to fireworks.  
**October 2002, Animal Advice Centre, Fireworks and Noise Phobias**

Vet Peter Coleshaw believes he can cure animals' fears of fireworks. Macclesfield  
**October 16 2002, Manchester Online, Big bang 'cure' for scared pets**

Two dogs are on tranquillisers thanks to selfish youngsters who have been letting off fireworks. Soham  
**October 22 2002, The Hunts Post, Firework distress**

Protesters armed with placards campaigned for a ban on the sale of fireworks in Inverclyde.  
**Greenock Telegraph, 22 October 2002, Animal lovers in fireworks protest**

The main problems affecting pets are those linked to stress caused by noise. Blue Cross  
**October 24 2002, This is Wiltshire, A stressful time for pets**

We are particularly frightened of what could happen to her with Bonfire Night coming up. Netherton  
**October 25 2002, Express and Star, Fears for woman's health after dog lost**

Every year PDSA hospitals are faced with a range of firework-related injuries.  
**October 26 2002, This is Hampshire, For your pets' sake, remember, remember the 5th of November**

Reckless use of fireworks could ruin her life by scaring her guide dog. West Cumbria  
**October 26 2002, The News and Star, Fireworks can wreck a Guide Dog for life**

Your pet dog is not so keen on the bangs of the pyrotechnics. Battersea Dogs Home  
**October 28 2002, This is Gloucestershire, Think of pets on November 5**

Two German Shepherds were badly injured when youths hurled the fireworks. Preston  
**October 28 2002, Preston Today, Firework thugs attack sick dogs**

For horse owners it can be a worrying time. International League for the Protection of Horses  
**October 29 2002, Local London, Fireworks warning to horseowners**

Youths had caught a cat and taken a rabbit and had strapped fireworks to the backs of the terrified animals.  
**October 30 2002, This is Cheshire, Winsford, Woman's horror as firework gang target pets**

One of her animals was injured after being frightened by fireworks. Little Budworth  
**October 30 2002, This is Cheshire, Horse owner's plea to people to be careful with their fireworks**

Many animals are injured by fireworks each year and the noise often scares them. Huddersfield  
**October 30 2002, icHuddersfield, Spare a thought for pets**

A one-year-old Japanese Akita dog was killed in Shirebrook after it was terrified by a firework.  
**November 2 2002, This is Nottingham, RSPCA- We back Post's campaign**

The RSPCA is backing the Post's call for a fireworks ban.  
**November 2 2002, Evening Post, RSPCA- We back Post's campaign**

Manchester Evening News campaign to end the annual misery caused by fireworks  
**November 4 2002, ManchesterOnline, Stay Safe campaign wins backing**

In Rochdale a cat suffered severe burns when it was hit by a lighted firework.  
**November 4 2002, ManchesterOnline, Stay Safe campaign wins backing**

The harm fireworks can cause to livestock is not always so well documented. RSPCA  
**November 5 2002, icWales, Farmers warning over fireworks**

A man was attacked by his own dog after it was startled by children letting off fireworks. Willenhall  
**November 5 2002, icCoventry, Firework scares dog into attacking**

A kitten is recovering after a firework was taped to his back and ignited. Everton  
**November 5, 2002, BBC News, Firework taped to kitten's back**

A stallion being groomed for stardom was killed after being spooked by fireworks. Pyecombe  
**November 6 2002, This is Brighton & Hove, Horse killed in firework scare**

A massive fireworks display is believed to have frightened a kitten to death. Wolverhampton  
**November 6 2002, Express and Star, Cat is 'scared to death' by fireworks**

Her guide dog is petrified by the sounds, which now occur regularly due to the increasing use of fireworks.  
**November 7 2002, Courier co uk, Tunbridge Wells, Fireworks curb call**

The RSPCA have said rockets, bangers and the plethora of other items now on sale should be restricted  
**November 8 2002, This is Somerset, RSPCA campaign against public fireworks use**

Angry that people in the area are letting off rockets and bangers at all times. Abbeymead  
**November 8 2002, This is Gloucestershire, Firework nearly hit my dog**

Their pets were also left trembling. Exeter  
**November 8 2002, This is Devon, Blitz flashbacks prompt muffle bid on mega bangers**

Super-loud bangs from large fireworks being let off in the street terrified Molly into running away.  
**November 8 2002, Express and Star, Wednesbury, Fireworks blamed for missing dog**

My German Shepherd dog Tikka shakes like a leaf. She just hates it. St Thomas  
**November 9 2002, This is Devon, Dog-owners' fear at bomb-style bangers**

Pet rabbit nearly died after a firework was thrown in her garden, Beacon Heath  
**November 12 2002, This is Devon, Firework 'bombs' terror sparks call for shop**

The frightened animal had rushed into the road to escape the sound of fireworks. Mansfield  
**November 14 2002, This is Nottingham, Scare dog is killed by car**

A six-and-a-half year old black Labrador, bolted in terror when a large display rocket exploded. Wharfedale  
**November 14 2002, This is Bradford, Call to cool fireworks after family dog bolts in terror**

Had to put her dog Loulou on tranquillisers because of the constant racket of explosions. Chingford  
**November 14 2002, Local London, Dog owner furious at continuing fireworks**

The dog, startled by loud firework explosions nearby, disappeared over a fence. Sheffield  
**November 14 2002, Leeds Today, Blunkett backs curbs on fireworks**

One of his prized cows died during a corporate firework display. Little Budworth  
**November 15 2002, icCheshireOnline, Valuable cow dies after firework panic**

She was frightened by a firework. Leamore

**November 15 2002, Express and Star, Pet suffers brain damage in attack**

He has spent five days in vet hospital having intensive care to save his sight. Skipton.

**November 15 2002, This is Bradford, Readers Letters**

The mare was frightened by the flares and bangs. St Columb

**November 18 2002, This is Devon, Fireworks Fright 'Killed' Horse**

Mavis, ran off in terror after hearing a firework blast. Countess Wear

**November 18 2002, This is Devon, Fireworks Are Blamed For Dog's Death**

Dog was injured when a banger exploded in her back garden. Slough

**November 20 2002, icBerkshire, Pet dog is hounded by fireworks**

There were loads of fireworks being set off and he is terrified of them. Newcastle

**November 21 2002, Evening Chronicle, Pet dog jumps from first floor**

I have two cats and I am scared of them being injured by the nasty fireworks. Bradford

**November 29 2002, This is Bradford, Letters to the Editor,**

Last week a firework hit my friend's dog and it had to be put down because of all the scars all over it's face.

**November 29 2002, This is Bradford, Letters to the Editor,**

The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association appeals to readers to sign our "Regulate Fireworks Now" petition,

**December 30 2002, This is Lancashire, Don't forget pets as fireworks are set off**

## **Complaints of Noise**

Not letting residents living nearby know about the event before. Colchester

**January 3 2002, This is Essex, Colchester, Pets traumatised by 2002 fireworks**

Fireworks have become almost a weekly, and sometimes nightly, event throughout the year.

**January 5 2002, Eastern Daily Press, Now every celebration goes with a bang**

Reports of loud blasts going off at all hours of the day and night.

**January 10 2002, This is Cheshire, Firework noise is bang out of order for pets**

If people think a few pretty things in the sky and loud bangs are more important than living creatures.

**April 2 2002, This is Brighton and Hove, Brighton, Call to end fireworks menace**

Houses shook, pond water vibrated and sounds like cannon fire echoed around Kempsey

**April 12 2002, This is Worcester, It was like the Somme**

A noisy fireworks display followed, with rockets set off from between gravestones. Mitcheldean

**June 14 2002, This is Gloucestershire, 'Sex and fireworks in village churchyard' Row**

Plagued by firework pranksters in the early hours. Southampton

**July 10 2002, This is Hampshire, Fireworks spark night-time furore**

Shook the town with a series of explosions lasting for nearly half an hour. Marlborough

**July 11 2002, This is Wiltshire, College's late-night fireworks blasted**

Police and noise nuisance officers were called out at midnight last Saturday when explosions  
**July 17 2002, This is Local London, Tempers flare over late night fireworks on land near Ham House**

Disturbed at 3am on Monday . Shirley  
**July 26 2002, This is Solihull, Fury over late night fireworks**

Exeter families fed-up with fireworks keeping them awake through the night  
**August 6 2002, This is Devon, Residents have had enough of late-night noise**

City residents whose nights have been wrecked by impromptu firework displays. Exeter  
**August 9 2002, This is Devon, Residents fear more nights of city firework**

He was threatened by a camper who let off a firework late at night on a crowded Torbay campsite.  
**August 14 2002, This is Devon, Firework Assaults Denied**

They were being disturbed by explosions from an impromptu display. Brighton  
**August 20 2002, This is Brighton and Hove, Mayor calls for late-night fireworks ban**

Complained of fireworks, klaxons and chants which continued until 4am every day. Temple Newsam  
**August 27 2002, This is Leeds, We were put under siege**

Leicester City Council had 56 complaints about noisy fireworks.  
**August 31 2002, This is Leicestershire, Cracking plan to cut noise**

When one goes off close by, you feel the house shake. Leicester  
**September 4 2002, This is Leicestershire, Cracking down on the deafening fireworks din**

There is no excuse for such annoying behaviour. Bradford  
**September 5 2002, This Is Bradford, Late-night firework folk have lost gunpowder plot**

Noisy fireworks being let off at all hours. Coventry  
**September 9 2002, icCoventry, Crackdown on city fireworks**

The sound of exploding fireworks is already common in some parts of Nottingham  
**September 24 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Fireworks Misery, Yet Again**

Pensioners whose lives are made a misery because of firework misuse. Leicester  
**October 1 2002, This is Leicestershire, Fury over fireworks**

Stop terrorising the elderly, animals and giving local bored youths ammunition. Leeds  
**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

Many fools around here wait until late or even the early hours to let their fireworks off. Leeds  
**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

Nowadays fireworks are on sale much too soon. Leeds  
**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

After spending nights and even days listening to the countless bangs and screams from fireworks. Leeds  
**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

At the moment, the youths do seem to be running amok and something needs to be done. Southampton  
**October 9 2002, This is Hampshire, Thugs target shop in firework attack**

A record number of residents have complained about people setting off fireworks so far this year. Leicester  
**October 10 2002, Leicester Mercury, Fireworks draw record moans**

Is there nothing the police or local authority can do about the incessant noise of fireworks. Newcastle  
**October 10 2002, Evening Chronicle, Vent Your Spleen**

Disturbances after fireworks were let off late into the night and early morning. Bowness and Windermere  
**October 11 2002, This is The Lake District, Fireworks protests**

Each night, there's a volley of explosions. Manchester  
**October 17 2002, Manchester Evening News, It's time to ban the sale of fireworks**

I wholeheartedly agree with the person from Shiremoor writing about fireworks.  
**October 19 2002, Evening Chronicle, Vent Your Spleen**

All the weekend we were kept awake by every firework going off all night long. Wallsend  
**October 22 2002, Evening Chronicle, Vent Your Spleen**

More people than ever are complaining about the daily racket caused by fireworks in Leicester.  
**October 30 2002, Leicester Mercury, You're bang out of order!**

A wave of firework bombs sweeping across the city has left many Leeds residents scared.  
**October 30 2002, Leeds Today, Firework jobs strike**

A record number of complaints about fireworks has prompted campaigners to push for tighter controls.  
**November 7, 2002, Leicester Mercury, Fireworks spark 212 complaints**

Exeter pensioners were sent scuttling for cover after 'bomb-like' fireworks brought back memories  
**November 8 2002, This is Devon, Blitz flashbacks prompt muffle bid on mega bangers**

Constant firework explosions before and after November 5 are infuriating residents of Chingford.  
**November 14 2002, Local London, Dog owner furious at continuing fireworks**

Months of noisy fireworks have prompted more Exeter residents to press for a fresh petition.  
**November 20 2002, This is Devon, Support mounting for fireworks campaign**

Angry residents spoke out about the fireworks keeping them awake into the early hours. Windermere  
**November 22 2002, This is The Lake District, Sparks fly over fireworks**

Residents fear someone could be maimed or killed by metal-tipped fireworks. Leicester  
**November 22 2002, This is Leicestershire, 'Ban dangerous fireworks'**

I didn't expect people to complain big time. Ilkley  
**November 29 2002, This is Bradford, Furore over late night firework display at hotel**

## **Firework Accidents,**

A man has died in Antwerp, Belgium, after a box of fireworks accidentally exploded in his face  
**January 1 2002, Cheshire Online, Man dies in fireworks explosion during New Year's celebrations**

A faulty indoor firework sparked a fire in a night-club's ducting on Bridge Street, Bolton,  
**January 1 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework starts blaze**

Arsonists or a stray firework were today being blamed for a blaze at Canvey tip  
**January 2 2002, This is Essex, Canvey, New Year blaze at island tip**

A £50,000 renovation, in Wallington, had just been completed when a stray firework set light to rubbish.  
**January 2 2002, This is Local London, Firm's new office damaged by fire**

The dead were owner Liu Junping; his wife and 13-year-old son; and three female employees. China  
**January 21 2002, The Journal, Six killed in fireworks explosion**

The firework crashed through the glass over the breakfast room, in Stoulton, at about 10pm.  
**February 5 2002, This is Worcestershire, Apology after firework went through roof**

At least nine people were killed when a customer lit a firecracker at a fireworks stand at a mall in China.  
**February 10 2002, icScotland, Fireworks fire in central China kills at least nine**

A child has been killed and seven adults are missing after an explosion at a fireworks factory. China  
**February 25 2002, icScotland, Fireworks factory blast kills one and seven missing**

A fireworks factory has blown up at Carmel in Perth's Hills area on the west coast of Australia,  
**March 6 2002, ITN News, Australia, A Fireworks Factory Exploded in Perth's Hill**

A British tourist visiting South America died after a box of smuggled fireworks exploded at her feet  
**April 10, 2002, Times Online, Tourist died after fireworks exploded on bus**

A rocket from a Jubilee firework display is believed to have landed in an empty plastic flowerpot  
**June 4 2002 BBC News, Firework sets light to butterfly haven**

They had been following instructions while lighting fireworks, but one failed to ignite.  
**June 6 2002, This is Worcester, Battle to save eye of firework victim**

Jeep was corroded by firework dust. Cheltenham  
**June 8 2002, This is Gloucestershire, Rocket Racket made me cry**

An explosion at a fireworks factory in central Indonesia today killed 10 people, injured 19  
**September 21 2002, icScotland, Blast at Indonesian fireworks factory kills 10**

14-year-old Stockton boy suffered facial burns when another child threw a blazing firework at him.  
**October 9 2002, icTeesside, Fireworks ban call**

And a pensioner in Hartlepool had a finger blown off by one of the powerful fireworks.  
**October 9 2002, icTeesside, Fireworks ban call**

A large gorse fire which burnt almost two acres of Dartmoor is believed to have been started by a firework,  
**October 10 2002, This is Devon, Firework Blamed For Gorse Fire**

13-year-old almost lost an eye when she was struck in the face by an exploding banger  
**October 10 2002, Greenock Telegraph Online, Mum calls for firework ban**

Last week, a 19-year-old man from Wigan suffered severe burns when a firework exploded in his face  
**October 12 2002, Manchester Online, Beating Bonfire Night tragedy**

Was hit by the firework as she walked with friends to her home in Castle Bromwich  
**October 12 2002, icBirmingham, Victim's dad in firework ban call**

A teenager could be blinded in one eye after a firework blew up in his face. Preston  
**October 16 2002, Preston Today, Teenager injured in firework blast**

A spate of firework incidents including an attack on a house which blew out windows and doors.  
**October 18 2002, This is Lancashire, Blackpool, Dawn swoop nets fireworks**



Two separate fires have erupted in firecracker factories in southern India, killing at least 25 people.

**October 24 2002, icScotland, 25 killed in two fireworks factory fires**

Roman candle-type firework exploded after it was lit sending a fireball. Manchester

**October 25 2002, Manchester Online, Firework scars of party girl**

A police spokesman confirmed that it was believed a stray firework had caused the blaze.

**October 28 2002, This is Lancashire, Caravan is destroyed in blaze**

A rocket he found on the street, in Breightmet, exploded in his hand

**October 28 2002, This is Lancashire, Boy in exploding rocket horror**

Children playing with fireworks are suspected to have sparked a blaze at in Aspley,

**October 29 2002, This is Nottingham, Commodore hit by blaze**

It actually exploded on her leg and at first she thought the firework had gone through her leg. Great Lever

**October 30 2002, This is Lancashire, Rocket horror Mum in law plea**

The firework John tried to light exploded, ripping his right hand to shreds. Astley

**October 31 2002, This is Lancashire, Rocket for bonfire night thugs**

Whether a blaze that destroyed a row of shops was caused by children playing with fireworks.

**October 31, 2002, BBCi Teletext, Shops face demolition after major blaze**

Injured in the right leg when a youth hurled a firework at her in Newton Abbot.

**November 2 2002, This is Devon, Teenagers Escape As Firework Explodes**

Playing in their bedroom when a lighted rocket firework shot through the window. York

**November 4 2002, This is York, Ban sale of fireworks**

A severed finger was found in the grounds of a Bury school after a firework exploded in a teenager's hand

**November 5 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework blows off boy's finger**

The rescue of a mother and baby from their smoke-logged flat was blamed on a stray firework

**November 5 2002, This is Lancashire, Arson ruled out in mum and baby fire drama**

A deadly firework crashed through a conservatory roof and hit a terrified 10-year-old girl. Lostock Hall

**November 5 2002, Preston Today, Rocket blasts through roof**

A teenager had his right hand blown off when he picked up a huge display firework. Higher Broughton

**November 5 2002, ManchesterOnline, Boy's hand blown off by rocket**

A pregnant woman lost her baby after a firework hit her the stomach. Greater Manchester

**November 5 2002, ManchesterOnline, Boy's hand blown off by rocket**

Burns to his hands caused by a Catherine Wheel exploding at a party in West Road, Hampstead.

**November 5 2002, icBirmingham, Yobs 'hell bent' on bonfire mayhem**

After a firework blew up in their faces at Windermere Road, Handsworth.

**November 5 2002, icBirmingham, Yobs 'hell bent' on bonfire mayhem**

A man was injured when a firework inadvertently went into the crowd in Bedlington

**November 6, 2002, icNewcastle, Three people were hurt last night in an accident at an organised fireworks display in Northumberland.**

A young man, in Motherwell, injured when a firework exploded in his face

**November 6, 2002, Evening Times, Horror as man, 22, is blasted by firework**

A female doctor, in Maryhill, was injured when a firework blew up in her garden  
**November 6, 2002, Evening Times, Horror as man, 22, is blasted by firework**

A rocket blew a great hole in his roof. Horsley  
**November 7 2002, This is Stroud, Rocket causes chaos**

A 16-year-old from Glasgow suffered severe burns to his hand when a rocket he was holding exploded.  
**November 7, 2002, Evening Times, Eye op delay for firework blast victim**

Rocket sent crashing through the dining room window of a house in Maryport  
**November 8 2002, West Cumberland Times and Star, Is it time to forget the fifth**

A firework damaged a window at the residential care home Ainsdale House, Ashton,  
**November 8 2002, This is Lancashire, Horror of hair fire**

property was damaged in Blackpool Road.  
**November 8 2002, This is Lancashire, Horror of hair fire**

People were hiding behind the shelters and shielding themselves from the low flying fireworks. Ilfracombe  
**November 8 2002, This is Devon, Families Flee From Fireworks Terror**

A firework struck her face as she watched an organised display. Newbury  
**November 8 2002, NewburyNet, Lions will review PA provision after firework hits young mum's face**

Suffered severe burns when a firework shot out of control and landed in her hair. Brighton  
**November 9 2002, This is Brighton & Hove, Girl, 6, in firework horror**

It hit it with enough force to break a neighbour's roof tile and set fire to the felt underneath."  
**November 11 2002, This is Oxfordshire, Stray firework damages roof**

Died after she was knocked to the ground moments after a firework was let off  
**November 11 2002, icHuddersfield, Death tragedy Two arrested**

Two women have undergone surgery in South Yorkshire after a firework exploded in front of them.  
**November 11 2002, BBC News, Surgery for firework burns victims**

12 people suffered burns in a fireworks accident at a display in Holbeach Lincolnshire  
**November 11 2002, BBC News, Stray firework injures 12**

House shook with a rocket coming through my toilet window, which was closed. Sneinton  
**November 12 2002, This is Nottingham, Rocket attack terror**

A firework crashed through her window and set fire to the curtains and carpet. East Cheshire  
**November 13 2002, This is Cheshire, Rocket lands in couple's bedroom**

Crossed the road instead of the underpass because youths had been letting off fireworks in the subway  
**November 13 2002, icCheshireOnline, Northwich, Fear of yobs ends in death**

3 pubs in Undercliffe were left terrified after a gang threw powerful fireworks through the doors.  
**November 14 2002, This is Bradford, Terror in pubs as air bombs thrown in**

The rocket hit the window in Berrymeade Close with a loud bang at about 10.50pm, Ashstead  
**November 19 2002, icSurreyOnline, Rocket attack blasts house window**

A firework smashed through the roof of a house in Torquay

**November 22 2002, This is Devon, Ban anger as rocket smashes through roof**

Exploded, leaving both youths with facial injuries and one with burns to his hands.

**December 19 2002, Evening Chronicle, Two hurt by firework**

Seven people have been killed and 26 injured after a container of fireworks exploded, Kyrgyz

**December 27 2002, icScotland, Market fireworks blast kills seven**

A firework damaged her garden furniture after a powerful rocket punched a hole in a heavy table

**December 30 2002, icLanarkshire, Greenhills, Firework shock in backyard**

## **Fireworks used as weapons**

### **Fireworks used against Firemen**

One firework exploded only 3ft from one of the firefighters.

**October 2 2002, This is Lancashire, Warning to jobs in fire crews attacks**

Fireworks were hurled at firefighters as they were attempting to put out a grass fire in Kirkby.

**October 2 2002, icLiverpool, Firefighters attacked by jobs**

A firefighter was injured last night when a firework thrown by a motorist exploded at his feet.

**October 9 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework injures fireman**

Jobs hurled fireworks at firefighters tackling a blaze at an allotment.

**October 9 2002, icNewcastle, 999 crew attacked**

Firefighters came under attack from youths armed with rockets and other powerful fireworks on a dimly-lit Bolton street.

**October 14 2002, This is Lancashire, Firemen blasted by rockets**

"These rockets were flying about as the firefighters were trying to do their job."

**October 16 2002, Greenock Telegraph, Jobs hurl rockets at firemen**

Jobs hurling fireworks are setting potentially lethal traps for hard working firefighters.

**October 17 2002, Salford Advertiser, Jobs hurl bombs at city firefighters,**

In Hamilton, a crew were hit with fireworks as they fought a blaze.

**October 30 2002, Daily Mirror, Firemen Attacked by Gang**

A gang of jobs attacked fire crews with a barrage of fireworks

**October 2002, Manchester News, Terror attack by firework thugs**

Thugs hurled fireworks at firefighters who were called out to a caravan fire.

**November 1 2002, This is Nottingham, Thugs target firefighters**

A gang of jobs attacked fire crews with a barrage of fireworks as they tackled a blaze.

**November 6 2002, ManchesterOnline, Terror attack by firework thugs**

Youths caused bonfire night havoc across Coventry last night by throwing fireworks at cars and fire engines.

**November 6 2002, icCoventry, Youths bring fireworks havoc**

At least two firefighters have been injured after missiles and fireworks were thrown at them during Bonfire Night attacks.

November 6, 2002, BBC News Scotland, Fire Crews Attacked on Bonfire Night

## **Fireworks used against people in houses**

A firework pushed through the door.

**January 3 2002, Surrey on-line, Young wreckers plaguing village**

Yobs pushed a firework through the sleeping family's letterbox early yesterday.

**August 5 2002, This is the North East, Mum praised after firework attack**

"There was loud music, someone riding a quad bike with children on the back and fireworks were landing in our gardens still smouldering."

**August 8 2002, Leather Advertiser, Move to stop youth club on estate**

On the second occasion thugs attached a firework to his door which caused damage.

**September 9 2002, This Is Bradford, Elderly live in fear after arson attack**

A firework was pushed through the letterbox of a house in Cornfield Road while a young girl played nearby.

**October 9 2002, icTeesside, Fireworks ban call**

A firework was set off in the letterbox of a Coventry home last night.

**October 10 2002, icCoventry, Firework attack on home**

She realised that the firework had been pushed through her letterbox.

**October 11 2002, This Is Bradford, Fireball attack on woman, aged 89**

Left traumatised after a massive explosion at the front of their home shattered windows and caused a wooden porch to collapse

**October 11 2002, This Is Bradford, Families left traumatised by mysterious explosions**

I have already had a firework posted through my letterbox.

**October 11 2002, This is The Black Country, Firework yobs making life a nightmare for us**

An arsonist pushed a burning firework through their letterbox last night.

**October 12 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework pushed through letterbox**

A blaze which devastated a Slaithwaite firm may have been caused by a firework pushed under the door.

**October 16 2002, icHuddersfield, 'Wrecked by a firework'**

Widower Leonard Brown spoke of his shock today after a firework was put through his door.

**October 16 2002, Greenock Telegraph, Yobs hurl rockets at firemen**

A lit firework was thrown into a vet's surgery in Appleton during the early hours of Tuesday morning.

**October 17 2002, This is Cheshire, Firecracker explosion damages vet's surgery**

Firefighters rescued a man from a flat in Stretford after a suspected arson attack using fireworks.

**October 17 2002, Manchester Evening News, Firework prank starts blaze**

A second angry mother has called for a ban on fireworks after a rocket was pushed through her letter box.

**October 17 2002, Greenock Telegraph Online, Rocket prank angers mother**

Police are hunting mindless vandals who risked causing a major blaze by shattering the living room window of a family home and throwing in a lighted firework.

**October 17 2002, East Lothian Courier Lighted firework is thrown into house**

Firework nuisance was blamed for an explosion on October 5 at a flat on Forshaw Avenue, Grange Park, caused by an display firework pushed through a letterbox.

**October 18 2002, This is Lancashire, Dawn swoop nets fireworks**

Youths who pushed a firework through a woman's door in Guiseley have been blamed for her death less than a week after the incident.

**October 18 2002, This is Bradford, Firework attack woman dies**

Police also suspect that a fire which destroyed two bungalows in the Fairway, off Saffron Lane, last week was sparked by a firework.

**October 21 2002, Leicester Mercury, Post box firework attack sparks danger warning**

Vandals struck in Huddersfield on Saturday night, pushing a firework through the letterbox of a young family's house in Crosland Moor and setting it alight.

**October 21 2002, icHuddersfield, Huge cost of firework damage**

Yobs shoved fireworks through the letterboxes of two homes.

**October 22 2002, Express and Star, Fireworks terror as homes are targeted**

Poolbrook Primary School in Malvern has escaped with minor damage after pranksters put a lit firework through a letterbox.

**October 23 2002, This is Worcestershire, Plea is made on fireworks**

A firebug set off a firework in a communal hall at the flats, setting light to a pram at about 2.20pm on Sunday.

**October 23 2002, This is Trafford, Firefighters rescue toddler and baby**

Residents at a house in Windmill Road, Longford, were targeted by yobs who threw a lit firework through a broken window.

**October 23 2002, icCoventry, Concern over firework pranks**

A pregnant Willenhall woman got a nasty shock when yobs poked a lighted banger through the letterbox of her flat.

**October 23 2002, Express and Star, Yobs in banger attack on flat**

There has been a spate of incidents across Huddersfield in recent days where vandals have dropped lit fireworks through letterboxes.

**October 24 2002, icHuddersfield, MP backing our battle against the hooligans**

A terrified young Reading mother says her daughter could have been blinded when vandals sent two fireworks "screaming" through her letter box.

**October 25 2002, icBerkshire, Family suffers 'screaming' firework attack**

A young mum has told of the harrowing moment she lost her unborn child after being hit in the stomach by a firework put through her letterbox by a gang of thugs.

**October 25 2002, Manchester Online, Firework thugs cause mum to lose baby**

A home in Ingol was targeted by thugs who threw a lit firework through the letter box, while the owners were at home.

**October 29 2002, Preston Today, Gunpowder treason and clots**

A lit firework was thrown through a letter box and fell on to the carpet.

**October 29 2002, Preston Today, Gunpowder treason and clots**

At least four families were terrorised by gangs putting fireworks through letterboxes.

**October 29 2002, Preston Today, Gunpowder treason and clots**

A 15-year-old boy who pushed a lighted firework into the letterbox at Conwy police station for a dare appeared before a youth court yesterday.

**October 31 2002, iDaily Post, Firework prank,**

The building in Ilminster was damaged after a firework was set off in the entrance hall.

**October 31, 2002, BBCi Teletext, Firework badly charity building**

One was pushed through a the letterbox at a youth club in Manxman Road.

**November 1 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework fools spark shop blaze**

Teenage trick or treaters who put a lit firework in the letterbox of a house in Fishponds.

**November 1 2002, this is Bristol, Family escape in firework terror**

One came from a householder in Godalming who had a lit firework thrown through her letterbox by disgruntled trick or treaters.

**November 1 2002, Evening Standard, Halloween 'monsters' target buses**

A baby and its parents escaped unhurt when a lit firework was pushed through their letterbox.

**November 2 2002, Express and Star, Firework attack on family with baby**

The two-year-old was rushed to hospital after a rocket was hurled through the door of his Leeds home.

**November 4 2002, Leeds Today, Toddler hurt by firework vandals**

The Greater Manchester mother told how she suffered a miscarriage after the firework was pushed through her letterbox by young thugs. The woman almost died.

**November 5 2002, ManchesterOnline, Boy's hand blown off by rocket**

Lit fireworks were put through letterboxes,

**November 5 2002, icSurreyOnline, 'Trick or treat' terror**

A firework was also pushed through the letterbox of Jades Chinese Takeaway.

**November 5 2002, icSurreyOnline, 'Trick or treat' terror**

One was shoved through the letterbox of a house in Marbles Way, Burgh Heath.

**November 5 2002, icSurreyOnline, 'Trick or treat' terror**

One elderly couple were terrified when a large firework, possibly an air bomb, exploded when it was shoved through the letterbox of their home on Lime Grove in Golcar at 6.30pm.

**November 5 2002, icHuddersfield, Vicious thugs spark mischief night misery**

A lit firework pushed through the letterbox at a house on Mint Street in Marsh at 9.50pm

**November 5 2002, icHuddersfield, Vicious thugs spark mischief night misery**

Vandals put a lit firework into a postbox at Elland Post Office on Saddleworth Road in Elland

**November 5 2002, icHuddersfield, Vicious thugs spark mischief night misery**

Youngsters were blamed after fireworks were posted through the letterbox of a derelict building in York Terrace, Warsop, and into pillar boxes in Carrington and Beeston.

**November 6 2002, This is Nottingham, A hard day's night**

Last night five students had a lucky escape when a job pushed a lit rocket through their letterbox.

**November 6 2002, Preston Today, All fired up for big fun**

A firework may have caused a house fire in Cardiff.

**November 6 2002, icWales, Firework arson probe**

They tossed two fireworks through an open window of the students' dormitory.

**November 6 2002, icNewcastle, Police probing firework attack**

A firework pushed into an empty house in Maple Street, Golcar.  
**November 6 2002, icHuddersfield, Probe over mill inferno**

Yobs hurled exploding fireworks through the windows of a church, smashing glass and causing hundreds of pounds of damage.  
**November 6 2002, Express and Star, Fireworks are thrown into church**

A sandwich shop was badly damaged after thugs threw a firework through the letterbox, sparking a blaze.  
**November 7 2002, Preston Today, Blaze wrecks shop after vandals 'post' firework**

Police revealed that they have been investigating a catalogue of incidents that included fireworks shoved through letterboxes in the dead of night at houses in Dundonald and Ayr.  
**November 8, 2002, Ayrshire Post, Cops lift fireworks hooligans**

Another thug threw a firework out of the window of a house in Nelson Place, Ayr,  
**November 8, 2002, Ayrshire Post, Cops lift fireworks hooligans**

Terry Sayer runs a travel agents in Brownhill, Blackburn, where youths posted a rocket through the letterbox.  
**November 9 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework plea**

Police are hunting arsonists who pushed a burning firework through the letterbox of a Halesowen firm over the weekend.  
**November 11 2002, This is The Black Country, Firework attack on firm**

Kids were spotted shoving lit fireworks through the kitchen window of a flat in Surrey Lane on Bonfire Night.  
**November 14 2002, icSouthlondon, Firework forces OAP out of flat**

Police are hunting arsonists who pushed a lit firework through the letterbox of a Halesowen firm over last weekend.  
**November 15 2002, This is The Black Country, Firework damage**

The majority of these were egg-throwing incidents and fireworks through letter boxes.  
**November 16 2002, Express and Star, Children questioned on hoaxes and fires**

A lighted firework was shoved through their letterbox.  
**November 25 2002, This is Bradford, We could have died, say trapped couple**

## **Fireworks used against people**

She dropped a packet of cough sweets. As she bent to pick them up, the firework went off in her face.  
**March 9 2002, IcHuddersfield, Woman is hit by firework**

Over the years, youths have hurled fireworks, bricks and voodoo dolls through her windows.  
**March 30 2002, IcCoventry, I've been though hell**

One family tell of having fireworks set off through their letter box.  
**May 8 2002, icSouthLondon, Report accuses a council of racism**

"Jumping Jack" fireworks were hurled at terrified commuters and drinkers.  
**June 3 2002, This is York, Firework gang in station rumpus**

To throwing a firework at a woman.  
**June 29 2002, This Is Lancashire, Youths banned from town centre**

A grandad had his finger blown off when a hooded thug hurled a powerful firework at him.

**October 2 2002, This is The North East, Grandad's finger blown off as thug throws firework**

He threw stones at pupils and teachers, exploded fireworks in glass bottles in the grounds.

**October 2 2002, Manchester Online, School's out for thug**

Last week a 14-year-old Stockton boy suffered facial burns when another child threw a blazing firework at him.

**October 9 2002, icTeesside, Fireworks ban call**

She was with a group of other girls when a boy threw the firework at her.

**October 9 2002, Greenock Telegraph Online, Girl injured in firework horror**

"All I was told was that it was someone who came out of the pub who threw the firework at Sarah."

**October 11 2002, Birmingham Evening Mail, Firework girl's agony**

"I was reading the story in the *Telegraph* about the girl who was hurt in the face, when a firework was pushed through the letter box.

**October 12 2002, Greenock Telegraph, Rocket prank angers mother**

A man narrowly escaped serious injury after thugs shoved a lit firework into his pocket.

**October 15 2002, Preston Today, Gang's firework attack on man**

Police believe the explosive was thrown deliberately at the girl.

**October 16 2002, This is Devon, Girl, 7, hurt by firework**

A professional footballer has appeared before Solihull Magistrates charged with burning, maiming, disfiguring and disabling a city teenager with an explosion of gunpowder.

**October 18 2002, icBirmingham, Footballer on maiming charge**

Terror struck a school bus ride when a pupil hurled a lit firework at passers-by, narrowly missing a woman and her baby.

**October 19 2002, This is Nottingham, Firework terror on school bus**

She was almost blinded when a firework was hurled towards her.

**October 21 2002, icHuddersfield, Huge cost of firework damage**

Terrified passengers including a woman seven months pregnant cowered as a lit firework thrown by a gang of youths rocketed through their busy tube carriage.

**October 25 2002, Local London, Passengers terrified by firework gang**

A four-year-old girl was nearly hit by a firework which landed on the drive of her home.

**October 28 2002, Leicester Mercury, Stop misuse of fireworks, parents told**

The YMCA in Samuel Street was targeted by yobs who threw a series of lit fireworks into the building while children were inside with their teachers.

**October 29 2002, Preston Today, Gunpowder treason and clots**

One man was hit in the face by a rocket.

**October 29 2002, Preston Today, Gunpowder treason and clots**

Another reached into his pocket and found a lit firework.

**October 29 2002, Preston Today, Gunpowder treason and clots**

Police have arrested a 16-year-old youth after he allegedly threw a firework at a group of youths.

**October 31, 2002, Evening Post, Clamping down on city-wide fireworks menace**

Two men, aged 18 and 21, were arrested in the Knightswood area of Glasgow for throwing fireworks at men working in a cradle between the 18th and 20th floors of a multi-storey block.



## **October 31, 2002, BBC News Scotland, Firework Complaints Rocket**

A family of four escaped serious injury when youths threw a powerful firework through an open window.

### **November 1 2002, This is Brighton & Hove, Family's Hallowe'en firework shock**

A group of pensioners could have been killed when yobs threw a lit firework into a bowling club pavilion during a cribbage club meeting.

### **November 1 2002, Burton Mail, Firework 'could have killed OAPs'**

A Councillor today called for a by-law to ban the sale of fireworks after she was bombarded with air bombs in her car.

### **November 2 2002, This is Lancashire, Airbombs attack sparks demand for firework ban**

Seven-year-old Laura Ward, from Torquay, was injured in the right leg when a youth hurled a firework at her in Newton Abbot.

### **November 2 2002, Cornish Guardian, Teenagers escape as firework explodes**

Police today condemned "mindless" offenders who threw lighted fireworks into a bedroom where a six-month-old baby girl was sleeping.

### **November 6 2002, icBirmingham, 'Mindless' firework thugs slammed**

A man was hit in the face by a firework in Motherwell.

### **November 6, 2002, BBC News Scotland, Fire Crews Attacked on Bonfire Night**

The boy hurled a banger at passers-by from the top deck of the bus, narrowly missing a woman and her baby.

### **November 7 2002, This is Nottingham, Action on firework terror boy**

A woman narrowly escaped losing her sight after a gang of thugs hurled a firework in her face.

### **November 8 2002, This is Lancashire, Horror of hair fire**

A car full of yobs hurled fireworks into a crowded Bonfire Night party.

### **November 8 2002, This is Lancashire, Hooligans keep 999 services busy**

A woman was forced to dive for cover when a firework blasted through the dining room window of her home in Maryport.

### **November 8 2002, The West Cumberland Times and Star, 'Rocket attack on our home was deliberate'**

Fireworks were thrown at police and five people were arrested as trouble flared at the Peckham Rye bonfire celebrations on Tuesday.

### **November 8 2002, icSouthlondon, Fireworks thrown at police officers**

A packed single-decker bus had to be given a police escort after schoolchildren let off a firework, forcing shocked passengers to scatter.

### **November 8 2002, icBirmingham, Firework terror on bus**

## **Fireworks used against Police**

Protesters throwing petrol bombs, fireworks, stones and bottles.

### **January 10 2002, icNorthWales, Rioting in Belfast leaves 14 officers hurt**

Police were pelted with up to 140 petrol and acid bombs, as well as flares, fireworks, bricks and bottles.

### **January 11 2002, icScotland, Catfight riot left 48 cops wounded, Belfast Mayhem**

Threatening police with a firework

### **January 17 2002, This is Lancashire, Man denies threat to burn police**

Held a firework at waist height "like a gun" before firing it at police horses.

**March 2 2002, This is Bradford, Jail for rioter who used firework 'like a gun'**

A group of about 50 hooligans began raining down fireworks and flares on the police.

**May 3 2002, icBirmingham, 50 police hurt on night of hate**

Both sides threw petrol bombs and fireworks.

**May 5 2002, icScotland, Two police hurt in rioting**

"You don't just chance upon thunder flashes and fireworks."

**May 8 2002, icSouthLondon, We will see off the scum**

Police were attacked with bricks, paving stones, flares and fireworks.

**May 12 2002, icScotland, Police issue six more Millwall riot photos**

Bricks, bottles, petrol bombs and fireworks were all thrown at security lines during the trouble.

**June 2 2002, icScotland, Missiles thrown in latest Belfast riots**

Both sides threw a few bottles and fireworks at each other when the marchers went by at around 8pm

**July 13 2002, The Guardian News, Police praise IRA as violence is averted**

Officers were hit by a barrage of up to 100 petrol bombs, fireworks and bricks thrown by protesters.

**July 13 2002, icNewcastle, Parades less violent**

A 14-year-old youth was cautioned after fireworks were thrown at a patrol car.

**October, 24 2002, BBC News, Police in fireworks attack**

Police have come under attack from a gang of yobs hurling fireworks.

**November 5 2002, Burton Mail, Fireworks attack on cops**

A police chief today compared a town to Beirut after "the worst Bonfire Night in his 28 years as an officer".

A squad car was one of seven vehicles torched in Bulwell last night.

**November 6 2002, This is Nottingham, Police Chief says, 'It was like Beirut'**

Police officers in St Paul's were subjected to a barrage of industrial-sized fireworks deliberately aimed at them by groups of youths.

**November 7 2002, This is Bristol, Targeted by fireworks**

Police officers discovered their nearby patrol car had been doused in petrol and a smouldering firework thrown into a pool of petrol which had dripped from the car.

**November 13 2002, This is Worcestershire, Police office arson attack**

## **Fireworks used for Terror**

Throwing a firework in the village centre.

**February 21 2002, Northumberland Gazette, Firework Charge**

A man who threw a fire bomb in a busy city centre, thought to be a ballcock packed with fireworks.

**March 2 2002, Daily Mirror, Fire Bomb City Scare**

The package was now believed to be a professional firework rather than a bomb.

**March 5 2002, IcHuddersfield, Blast drama after chase**

A firework was hurled into a church meeting room

**March 22 2002, IcBirmingham, Church knife horror**

The giant roman candle exploded after being thrown into the premises.  
**March 26 2002, IcBirmingham, Men sent down for firework attack**

Petrol bombs thrown and a large number of fireworks set off.  
**April 19 2002, Scotsman.com, Riot blast bomb fear**

Three very large fireworks thrown yesterday on Alliance Avenue. Ball bearings were taped to the fireworks.  
**August 1 2002, Ulster TV, Sinn Fein urges parades ban**

The gang damaged property, threw fireworks.  
**August 2 2002, This is Nottingham, Standing up to the teenage terrors**

Threw stones and fireworks at people's homes and attacked passing buses in Abbey Hey.  
**September 2 2002, Manchester Online, Racist thug banned from city district**

Two teenagers have been banned from using fireworks after terrorising locals for more than a year.  
**September 11 2002, Manchester Online, Fireworks ban for teen louts**

Yobs deliberately aimed the missile at her tower block home which houses scores of old folk.  
**September 25 2002, Evening Chronicle, Rocket blasted through Evelyn's window**

"These things are basically missiles and if people are in the line of the firework they are going to get injured."  
**October 1 2002, Evening Mail, Jack's a real cracker**

A firework containing a series of smaller firecrackers was thrown on to the pitch.  
**October 8 2002, Times Online, Bigots face tough new laws after Old Firm violence**

Shoppers were left terrified when louts launched fireworks at a shop on a troubled Southampton estate.  
**October 9 2002, This is Hampshire, Thugs target shop in firework attack**

A car drove past at 9pm and a firework was thrown from the window.  
**October 9 2002, Salford Advertiser, 999 man's firework ordeal**

Youngsters in Eric Avenue, Thornaby, held a running battle, hurling fireworks at each other.  
**October 9 2002, icTeesside, Fireworks ban call**

He dropped a large rocket on the floor and rode out, leaving it to explode into the wooden ceiling.  
**October 11 2002, This is The North East, Fireworks pranksters condemned**

A skateboarder rode past the Oriental Kitchen, about 100 yards away, and threw another firework in.  
**October 11 2002, This is The North East, Fireworks pranksters condemned**

Arsonists also threw a brick and two bangers through a window in Clay Street, Eagley.  
**October 12 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework pushed through letterbox**

Two pubs and a restaurant reported incidents where fireworks were thrown at customers.  
**October 12 2002, This Is Bradford, Fireworks thrown in attacks**

Yobs in Ashgill were accused of hurling stones, bricks and fireworks at buses.  
**October 12 2002, icLanarkshire, Don't let the yobs kill off our vital bus link**

The gang hurled lit fireworks at pedestrians and into shops during a horrifying rampage through the streets.  
**October 14 2002, Leeds Today, Fireworks from MP**

Police in Cheltenham were flooded with calls about youths letting off fireworks last night.  
**October 15 2002, This is Gloucestershire, Fireworks disturb residents**

Residents in Glynbridge Gardens say boy racers, who regularly meet for "cruises" at Kingsditch Retail Park, have been firing rockets at passing cars.

**October 18 2002, this is Gloucestershire, Firework yobs spark outcry**

But problems began before the match had kicked off on Saturday evening with police seizing fireworks and knives in searches of Wolves fans' coaches.

**October 21 2002, Express and Star, Dozens arrested as hooligans run riot**

A gang of BMX riding youths in Heslington Road, York, are said to have thrown the lit firework in the direction of the woman.

**October 22 2002, This is York, Police warn fiends of fire danger**

The safety of passengers is being jeopardised by maniacs launching fireworks at planes landing at Manchester Airport.

**October 22 2002, Manchester Online, Firework yobs put jets in peril**

Letting rockets off horizontally on the Recreation Ground as well as putting lit rockets on the roundabout in the children's play area and then spinning the roundabout so they blast in all directions.

**October 22 2002, The Hunts Post, Firework distress**

Youths have been terrorising their neighbourhoods by throwing fireworks at people out walking their dogs and running amok with fireworks on estates.

**October 25 2002, The News & Star, Shops told not to sell fireworks to children**

A woman had to reverse her car to avoid a firework which had just missed someone else in the street.

**October 28 2002, Leicester Mercury, Stop misuse of fireworks, parents told**

Youths launched fireworks through cut-off drain pipes at passing vehicles.

**October 28 2002, icLiverpool, My street could be human rights case**

A gang of youths who threw a firework through his toilet window.

**October 28 2002, Express and Star, Pub boss angered as police free yob**

The offenders went around the side of the house, broke a glass panel in a wooden door and put a lit firework through it.

**October 29 2002, Preston Today, Gunpowder treason and clots**

On Sunday evening, some youths threw a stone through the window of a business unit in the town to smash the window, then they lit a firework and tossed it through the hole.

**October 29 2002, Express and Star, Cars and buildings targets for fireworks**

Lowton High School had to be evacuated after a firework was thrown into a classroom.

**October 30 2002, This is Lancashire, School evacuated in firework attack**

A wave of firework bombs sweeping across the city has left many Leeds residents scared to leave their homes after dark.

**October 30 2002, Leeds Today, Firework yobs strike**

The misuse of fireworks has turned one area of Taunton into a virtual war zone.

**October 31, 2002 Bath Chronicle, Cars wrecked in Halcon 'war zone'**

They had to cope with large gangs of youths throwing eggs and fireworks in the Barry Island, Cold Knap and Romilly Park areas.

**November 1 2002, icWales, Halloween terror**

Gangs of youths using a quiet cul-de-sac as a shortcut are plaguing residents by hurling bricks and fireworks at their homes.

**November 1 2002, icBirmingham, Cul-de-sac of terror**

In many parts of London and the South-East householders found themselves the target of attacks from flour bombs and fireworks when they refused to pay up.

**November 1 2002, Evening Standard, Halloween 'monsters' target buses**

A Paisley bus driver prevented a serious accident when some idiot set off a firework on his vehicle, packed with women and children.

**November 3, 2002, Sunday Post, Mindless**

A Kirkintilloch family had their window shattered by a banger.

**November 3, 2002, Sunday Post, Mindless**

Yobs in Hednesford are terrorising drinkers by hurling fireworks at them as they leave a pub.

**November 4 2002, Express and Star, Fears as yobs target pub drinkers**

Teenagers let off fireworks on buses, lit rubbish bins at tower blocks and set property on fire.

**November 5 2002, icBirmingham, Yobs 'hell bent' on bonfire mayhem**

A gang attacked Yasmins Balti takeaway in Ormond Road, Frankley with a large firework.

**November 5 2002, icBirmingham, Yobs 'hell bent' on bonfire mayhem**

The pair threw one into a taxi in Rectory Lane, Woodmansterne,

**November 5 2002, icSurreyOnline, 'Trick or treat' terror**

A lit firework was also thrown into the bar of the Woodman Public House in Woodmansterne Street

**November 5 2002, icSurreyOnline, 'Trick or treat' terror**

Youths were reported to be throwing fireworks around at Ainley Top, Fartown, Moldgreen, Marsh, Cowlersley, Bradley, Honley and Oakes.

**November 5 2002, icHuddersfield, Vicious thugs spark mischief night misery**

Animal rights activists have been accused of launching firework missiles into the garden of a farm worker.

**November 5 2002, Burton Mail, Activists accused of launching missiles**

Youths threw large fireworks into the foyer of a supermarket in Harwood last night.

**November 6 2002, This is Lancashire, Fireworks thrown into supermarket**

Young people were spotted misusing fireworks and eggs and stones were thrown at properties on Victoria Way.

**November 7 2002, Courier co uk, Vandals spoil Halloween fun**

Terrified passengers choked back thick black smoke when a thug let off a firework on a busy bus.

**November 8, 2002, Ayrshire Post, Cops lift fireworks hooligans**

A woman is believed to have fled a bus in terror after a yob let off a firework on it.

**November 12 2002, icHuddersfield, Firework terror on bus**

A woman who was frightened to use a subway because nuisance youths had been setting off fireworks was killed while trying to cross a dual carriageway in Rudheath.

**November 13 2002, icCheshireOnline, Fear of yobs ends in death**

Customers at pubs in Undercliffe were left terrified after a gang threw powerful fireworks through the doors.

**November 14 2002, This is Bradford, Terror in pubs as air bombs thrown in**

An Ashted couple had a lucky escape on Monday night when a firework launched at their house and blew a hole in their bedroom window.

**November 14 2002, icSurreyOnline, Rocket attack blasts house window**

In another incident, three fireworks were directed at Mr O'Leary's neighbours.  
**November 14 2002, icSurreyOnline, Rocket attack blasts house window**

A firework thrown into a pub.

**November 15 2002, This is The Lake District, Police continue disorder purge**

Fireworks have been thrown in the car park and into the foyer of St Andrew's Church Hall in Starbeck.

**November 15 2002, Harrogate Today Drama as Players face firework attacks**

An Ilminster family had a lucky escape after a large display firework was set off inside a pub early on Monday morning.

**November 27 2002, This is The West Country, Second firework incident hits town**

A woman has been injured in a firework attack on an Indian restaurant in Warwickshire.

**December 23 2002, BBC News, Woman hurt in firework attack**

A woman was treated for smoke inhalation following a firework attack on a restaurant in Studley.

**December 30 2002, This is Worcestershire, Shop attack hurts woman**

## **Fireworks used in vandalism**

They put a big firework up against the plinth and set it off so now there is a big gunpowder mark.

**January 24 2002, This is Essex, Hadleigh, War memorial appeal after vandals strike again**

Fireworks were thrown into the kiosk, causing the door to be blown off and scattering glass across a wide area.

**April 4 2002, Burton Mail, Hunt on for phone box blast vandals**

Fireworks were let off in a wheelie bin in Mill Street, Rocester.

**April 4 2002, Burton Mail, Hunt on for phone box blast vandals**

Heard a "pop," and then a "boom," as a Chinese firework went off in the kiosk at Waterfoot.

**May 25 2002, This is Lancashire, Man, 19, caged over 'vicious' attack**

The fire brigade was called out to deal with a blaze in a post-box caused by a lit firework.

**June 11 2002, This is North Scotland, Firework caused post-box blaze**

Gangs of up to 50 children setting off fireworks, building fires and smashing bottles at night

**October 3 2002, icLiverpool, Troublemakers torch fencing in fresh outbreak**

A stolen display firework was attached to a car and detonated in Collyhurst, Manchester.

**October 5 2002, This is Lancashire, Brigade chief's warning over fireworks misuse**

A gang of youths blew the top off its post box.

**October 7 2002, icWales, Firework 'Bombers' terrorise suburb**

Youths lighting fireworks in the kiosk on Parkfield Road, Newbold, at around 11.45pm on Friday.

**October 7 2002, icCoventry, Phone box fireworks warning**

A fan threw a live firework on to the pitch.

**October 8 2002, Telegraph, Sectarian hate 'has no place in Scotland'**

We think that possibly a firework had been put in the end of a dry powder extinguisher.

**October 10 2002, This is Essex, Basildon Firework thugs warned**

Earlier this week police in Cardiff reported a spate of explosions in phone boxes in the Ely area of the city.

**October 10 2002, icWales, Police urge shops not to sell eggs and flour to children**

A firework was pushed into a post box setting dozens of letters alight.

**October 11 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework sets mail alight**

A telephone box in Main Street, Hawksworth, was extensively damaged by what is thought to have been a firework.

**October 11 2002, This Is Bradford, Families left traumatised by mysterious explosions**

Youths also smashed a car window in Owlwood Drive, Little Hulton, and placed a firework on the back seat.

**October 12 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework pushed through letterbox**

Bins at the rear of the shop were set alight and a firework pushed into pens containing almost 200 bags of donated stock, all of which have been ruined.

**October 17 2002, icCoventry, Arsonists close charity shop**

A powerful firework thrown into a mailbox on Leicester's Saffron estate exploded with such force it cracked the box's cast iron casing.

**October 21 2002, Leicester Mercury, Post box firework attack sparks danger warning**

A large firework was dropped into it and when the device went off the cast iron box flew off the wooden pole it was attached to.

**October 22 2002, this is Scunthorpe, Firework 'bomb' wrecks postbox**

Vandals put the lit firework into the post box on Dewsbury Road near the junction with Caldercroft in Elland at 8.45pm.

**October 22 2002, icHuddersfield, Firework sold to girl, 14**

Firefighters from Gipton station have tackled four blazes in post boxes in the space of two days, all caused by fireworks being shoved through the letter slots.

**October 24 2002, Leeds Today, Post boxes targeted in firework attacks, By Charles Heslett**

Vehicles are also being targeted and a phone was blown off the wall in a Station Road call box in Bamber Bridge.

**October 29 2002, Preston Today, Gunpowder treason and clots**

Youths dined with death when they set off a firework in a post box.

**October 30 2002, Preston Today, Ban them now!**

Somerset Fire Brigade have dealt with five car fires which they believe involves fireworks.

**October 31, 2002, BBCi Teletext, Firework badly charity building**

A car was seriously damaged by youths who placed a powerful firework inside it in Charlestown.

**October 2002, Manchester News, Terror attack by firework thugs**

Two crews were called out to Poplar Street, Blackburn, today when a firework got lodged in the roof of a general store causing a small fire.

**November 1 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework fools spark shop blaze**

A firework was placed in a bin at London Road, sparking a blaze.

**November 1 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework fools spark shop blaze**

In Graham Avenue, Patcham, fireworks were put into a Royal Mail letter box. They exploded, blowing off the door and scattering post over the street.

**November 1 2002, This is Brighton & Hove, Family's Hallowe'en firework shock**

Hooligans have caused havoc for hundreds of people by blowing up a postbox with a firework.

**November 1 2002, Leeds Today, Blitzed**

Vandals wrecked a phone box by blowing it up with a powerful firework.

**November 1 2002, icHuddersfield, Blast wrecks phone box**

Vandals blew the door off a pillar box by posting a giant firework in it.

**November 2 2002, Daily Mirror, Yobs in letter bomb prank**

Letters were destroyed when firebugs put lit fireworks into a post-box in a York street.

**November 4 2002, This is York, Firework blast injures mayor**

A phone box was destroyed after yobs lit a firework in it.

**November 4 2002, icLiverpool, Firework destruction**

Across the North Yorkshire Police force area 55 incidents involving fireworks.

**November 5 2002, This is York, Mischief night brings mayhem**

A group of youngsters smash the windows of the caravan and throw in a lighted firework.

**November 6 2002, This is Nottingham, Police Chief says, 'It was like Beirut'**

Youngsters were blamed after fireworks were posted through the letterbox of a derelict building in York Terrace, Warsop, and into **pillar boxes** in Carrington and Beeston.

**November 6 2002, This is Nottingham, A hard day's night**

Last night, a car was seriously damaged by youths who placed a powerful firework inside it in Charlestown.

**November 6 2002, ManchesterOnline, Terror attack by firework thugs**

Locals in a Black Isle town thought a modern-day Guy Fawkes was at work when a metal post box exploded and sprayed the surrounding area with potentially lethal debris.

**November 7 2002, The Highland News, Police probe post box blast**

A firework damaged a window at the residential care home Ainsdale House, Ashton, and another property was damaged in Blackpool Road.

**November 8 2002, This is Lancashire, Horror of hair fire**

A mother feared for the safety of her nine-year-old son after firework vandals bombed a van outside her house.

**November 8 2002, This is Lancashire, Hooligans keep 999 services busy**

And a schoolboy lit a rocket which flew across the street in Hayhill.

**November 8, 2002, Ayrshire Post, Cops lift fireworks hooligans**

A pensioner was forced to move out of his home after a firework set light to his patio furniture, which then set fire to his flat.

**November 14 2002, icSouthlondon, Firework forces OAP out of flat**

Fireworks were set alight in a rubbish bin at Bromyard's Rowberry Street car park

**November 15 2002, This is Herefordshire, Firework prank**

The latest attack saw thugs blow up their greenhouse by breaking in and setting off a high-powered firework.

**November 15 2002, icHuddersfield, Five years of hell!**

Windows and walls shook as thugs caused a massive explosion which ripped apart a cast iron pillar box.

**November 19 2002, icSurreyOnline, Vandals blow up postbox**

Vandals used fireworks to blow up a village postbox last Friday. Teenagers dumped so many lit fireworks into the Royal Mail box that the shutter blew off, scattering letters all over the street.

**November 21 2002, icNorthWales, Vandals blow up postbox**



A postbox was blown out of a wall in Masham in North Yorkshire.

**November 21 2002, Guardian Unlimited Politics Special Reports Exploding postboxes**

An explosion in a rubbish bin that shattered windows in a Northampton street.

**November 21 2002, BBC News Firework 'caused bin blast'**

Christmas mail was left charred after a firework blew up a postbox.

**December 3 2002, This is Local London, Lit firework in postbox**

Vandals have recklessly set off fireworks inside kiosks nine times during recent weeks. Two went off in Rhos-on-Sea this week and another exploded in Talybont in the Conwy Valley.

**December 13 2002, icNorthWales, The moment a blast shook a quiet village**

Dozens of people were evacuated from about 20 houses in the early hours after a firework exploded in a car.

**December 24 2002, BBCi Yorkshire Region, Homes evacuated after explosion in car**

## **People who have spoke against fireworks**

**John Barrett, Edinburgh West MP, Liberal Democrat**

"Although we are not intending to be killjoys, I and other MPs are concerned about the increasing number of accidents involving fireworks. I want to see good, safe, public displays which will ensure the protection of adults and children, as well as pets and wild animals."

**January 9 2002, Edinburgh Evening News, MP sparks off fireworks crackdown**

**Andy Burnham, Leigh MP, Labour**

"I'm not against people enjoying fireworks on bonfire night, but things have gone too far. They are being let off all the year round and are much louder than they used to be. This causes great distress to many, but particularly older people. The time has come for the law to be tightened."

**January 10 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework ban bid**

**Tom Watson, West Bromwich East MP, Labour**

There is an urgent need to update the law to bring in tougher controls and prevent nuisance caused by the reckless misuse of fireworks."

**January 10 2002, icBirmingham, Bid to end misery of all-year fireworks**

**Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.**

"We support a change in the law because it would reduce the misery suffered by so many pets."

**January 10 2002, icBirmingham, Bid to end misery of all-year fireworks**

**Nottingham Evening Post**

We remind him that it cannot come soon enough for Post readers, who have consistently - and vociferously - backed our call to have the sale of fireworks banned, except to organisers of council-licensed public displays

**January 10 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Editorial, Next... Action on fireworks**

**The Prime Minister**

"Once we have the full statistics and survey of what has happened this year we will certainly consider if any changes are necessary"

**January 10 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Yes Prime Minister**

**John Clarke, Councillor, chair of Nottinghamshire Police Authority**

Wanted to see a fireworks ban.

**January 10 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Massive Response to the Post Campaign**

**Graham Jackson, Councillor, chair of Nottinghamshire Fire Authority**

Wanted to see a fireworks ban.

**January 10 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Massive Response to the Post Campaign**

**Ross Cranston QC, Dudley North MP, Labour**

Want to see the law changed so fireworks can only be bought at certain times of the year and set off at reasonable times in the evening.

**January 10 2002, icBirmingham, Bid to end misery of all-year fireworks**

**Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.**

"We support a change in the law because it would reduce the misery suffered by so many pets."

**January 10 2002, icBirmingham, Bid to end misery of all-year fireworks**

**Jo Cunningham, spokeswoman for the RSPCA's West Midlands branch,**

"We would firmly support greater regulation."

**January 10 2002, icBirmingham, Bid to end misery of all-year fireworks**

**Dari Taylor, Stockton South MP, Labour**

"I have parts of my constituency where pensioners have been petrified by attacks on their properties,"

**January 11 2002, IcTeesside, A rocket for firework jobs**

**Julia Drown, South Swindon MP, Labour**

"I have received a number of letters from Swindon people who have been disturbed by fireworks set off late at night, or who have been worried about the shock and distress caused to their pets and other animals."

**January 12 2002, This is Wiltshire, MP supports fireworks bill**

**Mike Harris, spokesman, Merseyside Fire Service**

"The use of fireworks last year appeared to be far more aggressive, and numerous concerns were expressed by members of the public. We had them being used as implements to threaten people, and the elderly felt particularly vulnerable. There were also incidents of children throwing fireworks at traffic."

**January 15 2002, icLiverpool, New curbs likely on sale of fireworks**

**Richard Kemp, Councillor, executive member on Liverpool city council, Liberal Democrat**

"We are not trying to stop families enjoying fireworks, we are just trying to stop the hooligans abusing them."

**January 15 2002, icLiverpool, New curbs likely on sale of fireworks**

**Castle Point Council's community safety committee**

Agreed the problem with fireworks had got out of hand and something had to be done. Fireworks being let off throughout the year are turning Castle Point into a "war zone".

**January 25 2002, This is Essex, Castle Point: Firework fear in borough**

**David Crausby, Bolton North East MP, Labour**

"The bangs and whizzes include explosions more appropriate with a military exercise, rather than for the back gardens and streets of Bolton. The current legislation is not working."

**January 26 2002, This is Lancashire, Rocket for rogue firework traders**

**Midlothian Council**

Asked the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities to investigate what can be done to introduce tighter rules on sales.

**January 28 2002, Scottish Evening News, Undercover mission in fireworks fight**

**Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**

Vets across Scotland have said that the 2001's festivities were the worst they have ever experienced for firework injuries to animals.

**February 3 2002, The Scotsman, 8,000 animals hit by firework terror**

**Kerry Littlejohn, Ashgrove Veterinary Centre, Aberdeen.**

"We are treating an increasing number of pets that are suffering panic attacks. The number of severe cases where sedatives have to be given out is also increasing. There needs to be a change in the law to prevent children getting their hands on them."

**February 3 2002, The Scotsman, 8,000 animals hit by firework terror**

**Peter Smith, Veterinary surgeon, Airdrie, Lanarkshire,**

"This year started earlier and lasted longer than I can ever remember. We must put pressure on legislators to introduce tighter controls on the sale of these products,"

**February 3 2002, The Scotsman, 8,000 animals hit by firework terror**

**Alistair Marks, Veterinary surgeon, Oak Tree Veterinary Centre, Edinburgh.**

"Fireworks are serious weapons in the wrong hands but there is a minority of people who would use fireworks to intentionally injure. They should be available for short periods of time and only to designated people who can handle them responsibly."

**February 3 2002, The Scotsman, 8,000 animals hit by firework terror**

**John Barrett, Edinburgh West MP, Liberal Democrat**

Was horrified to hear fireworks were set off in a car containing two dogs, which later had to be put down,

**February 3 2002, The Scotsman, MP blasts fireworks laws after horror attack**

**Conwy County Borough Council**

Called on the National Assembly and Westminster to end the sale of fireworks to members of the public.

**February 5 2002, IcWales, End the sale of fireworks to public, says council**

**Muriel Howard, Councillor, Colwyn Bay**

"Fireworks these days make a really big noise. They frighten elderly people."

**February 5 2002, IcWales, End the sale of fireworks to public, says council**

**Nottingham Evening Post,**

Our chief aim is to get the Government to outlaw the sale of fireworks except to approved operators connected with council-licensed displays

**February 7 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Air Bomb Ban Only The Start**

**John Woodhead, Chairman, British Fireworks Association**

"The industry will not be able to battle the issue of firework nuisance on its own,"

**February 7 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Air Bombs: Pressure Paying Off**

**John Clarke, Councillor, chair of Nottinghamshire Police Authority**

"Myself and Coun Jackson have personally called for a restriction on the sale of fireworks other than to organisers of licensed displays."

**February 7 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Air Bombs: Pressure Paying Off**

**Graham Jackson, Councillor, chair of Nottinghamshire Fire Authority**

"The pressure needs to be kept up so that firework noise levels can be reduced by next Bonfire Night."

**February 7 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Air Bombs: Pressure Paying Off**

**Dr Howard Stoate, Dartford MP, Labour**

Introduced an Early Day Motion calling for the Government to legislate against the noise and nuisance of firework displays which cause great distress to pets.

**February 11 2002, This is Local London, Crazy dog's terror leads to campaign**

**Bill Colwill, Gateshead Council's head of commercial and consumer services,**

"We have had reports and complaints of fireworks sold from households in the region. But no proof of it yet. Fireworks sold via a shop need to be made to a recognised standard to confirm they are safe and storage also has to comply with legislation. "Fireworks sold from homes have the potential to cause devastating effects."

If anyone knows anything about black market sales we want them to contact us."  
**February 14 2002, Evening Chronicle, Villains who are playing with fire**

**Richard Sneath, Prosecutor for Nottinghamshire Trading Standards,**  
"Fireworks are by nature a hazardous and dangerous product. Being exposed for sale to all on a busy open market stall outside the requirements of the legislation, is nothing short of a disaster waiting to happen."  
**February 26 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Bang to Rights!**

**Melanie Johnson, Minister for Consumer Affairs**  
"I know people have serious concerns about the use of fireworks. "I am fully aware of the depth of feeling and opinion expressed and I continue to take a close, personal interest in fireworks issues."  
**March 4 2002, This is Local London, Campaign leads to curb on fireworks**

**Dr Nick Palmer, Broxtowe MP, Labour**  
"I am still supporting a change in the law banning fireworks. "The pressure needs to be kept up."  
**March 4 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, A Rocket from the Public forces Firework rethink,**

**Melanie Johnson, Minister for Consumer Affairs**  
"Its clear that many people are upset by the levels of noise and nuisance caused by fireworks."  
**March 4 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, A Rocket from the Public forces Firework rethink,**

**John Woodhead, Chairman, British Fireworks Association**  
Called for tighter import controls  
**March 4 2002, IcHuddersfield, 'No firework ban' praised**

**Joan Ryan, Enfield North MP, Labour**  
"A ban on the retail sale of fireworks to the general public is the only way, satisfactorily, to address the many problems created by fireworks."  
**March 5 2002, This is Local London, Commons hears fireworks bill**

**Jim Sheridan, West Renfrewshire MP, Labour**  
Wants also to restrict the times of year fireworks can be bought and set off.  
**March 6 2002, Greenock Telegraph Online, MP wants to restrict times fireworks can be sold**

**David Crausby, Bolton North East MP, Labour**  
"I think local authorities should organise displays as an alternative to domestic displays."  
**March 7 2002, This is Lancashire, MP backs firework curbs**

**Peter Pike, Burnley MP, Labour**  
"The period grows ever longer for the use of fireworks and the noise is louder."  
**March 7 2002, This is Lancashire, MP asks for action to curb firework problem**

**David Cairns, Greenock and Inverclyde MP, Labour**  
"I strongly believe the government needs to support firework proposals and provide time for legislation to be brought forward from the backbenches."  
**March 12 2002, Greenock Telegraph Online, MP joins battle to ban fireworks**

**Margaret Morrison, convener of community and protective services,**  
"All councils in Scotland are worried by the extent of over-the-counter sales of fireworks and the power and noise of those being sold. We support the continuation of organised displays and the licensing of those displays. But there is a real fear about the sale of these and the damage they can do."  
**March 13 2002, Greenock Telegraph Online, Anger as firework complaints rocket**

**Dari Taylor, Stockton South MP, Labour**  
"Restrict the period during which fireworks are on sale, to prevent the abuse of these often dangerous explosives."  
**March 12 2002, IcTeesside, MP backs bill to limit sale of fireworks**

**Ronnie McColl, Councillor SNP**

"Fireworks are becoming the bane of many people's lives, especially the elderly".

**March 12 2002, IcScotland, Fireworks Ban to end misery**

**Jo Steer, founder of Control of Fireworks for Animal Welfare, (COFFAW)**

"There are plenty of MPs backing the campaign. Some who didn't support us before seem to have had a change of heart, "

**March 20 2002, This is Somerset, 121,000 Back Jo's fireworks protest**

**Nottingham Evening Post**

So here are another 130,000 allies in the drive to have the sale of fireworks restricted to the organisers of licensed public displays.

**March 30 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Firework Fight: 130,000 Allies**

**Nottingham Evening Post**

A 130,000-Signature petition backing a call for a firework sales ban will be presented to MPs.

**March 30 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Firework Ban Call hits Parliament**

**Dr Nick Palmer, Broxtowe MP, Labour**

"I'm looking forward to being at the presentation as it's another important step forward in calling for a ban on the sale of fireworks."

**March 30 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Firework Ban Call hits Parliament**

**Chris McCafferty, Calder Valley MP, Labour**

They are let off recklessly, at any time of the day or night throughout the year, and are causing enormous distress to people and their pets."

**April 1 2002, IcHuddersfield, Call for tougher firework controls**

**Debra Shipley, Stourbridge MP, Labour**

"The noise and reckless use of fireworks is unacceptable and is distressing for older people and animals. I will continue to press the Government to licence fireworks for community events only."

**April 4 2002, This is The Black Country, Firework fight for MP**

**Jo Steer, founder of Control of Fireworks for Animal Welfare, (COFFAW)**

"We hope to ensure the whole of Parliament is aware of the support for restrictions to be put in place."

**April 10 2002, IcTeesside, Banger battle goes to the top, by The Evening Gazette**

**Barry Gardiner, Brent North MP, Labour**

"I know there is a strong campaign going on in Nottingham on this issue. A tenth of the entire petition was signed by people from Notts which just shows the level of support that there is in the county for effective control of fireworks."

**April 11 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Fireworks Notts Call For a Ban**

**Pamela Pearson, founder Prevent Unwanted Pets animal welfare charity**

Wants the Government to slap a total ban on large fireworks which cause excessive levels of noise and distress.

**April 12 2002, This is Lancashire, Call for new laws on firework sales**

**Jane Kennedy, Northern Ireland Security Minister**

"I know from the groundswell of public opinion during the consultation process just how upset many people have been by the constant abuse of fireworks."

**April 22 2002, icTeesside, Let's copy Ulster ban on fireworks**

**Stan Tennant, Councillor, Central Buchan, Scottish Nationalist Party**

wants sales restricted to authorised people in charge of organised displays.

**April 24 2002, This is North Scotland, New bid to ban sale of fireworks to public**

**Sue Marbrow, Councillor, East Staffordshire**

wants to see the legal age for buying fireworks increased to 21.

**April 25 2002, Burton Mail, New call to change the firework laws**

**Frank Roy, Motherwell and Wishaw MP, Labour**

"I have been astonished at how many people are being terrorised because fireworks are being used inappropriately. "Fireworks are getting more powerful and are often used as weapons. "We hope to convince the Government, by showing this groundswell of popular support, of the need for tougher laws on fireworks."

**May 3 2002, icScotland, Roy's Rocket, MP in call for tougher rules on firework sales**

**Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**

The society is encouraging anyone planning a firework display in Wales to reconsider and attend events organised by professionals.

**May 21 2002, icWales, Call to remember animals and avoid letting off Jubilee fireworks**

**Neil Gerrard, Walthamstow MP**

"I believe too many fireworks are let off recklessly at any time of the day or night throughout the year."

**June 11 2002, This is Local London, Firework campaign seeks public support**

**Brian Cotter, Weston-super-Mare MP, Liberal Democrat**

A call to restrict the use of fireworks is to be taken to the House of Commons.

**June 11 2002, This is Bristol, Cotter to raise fireworks issue with fellow MPs**

**Shona Robison, North East Scotland, MSP, Scottish Nationalist Party**

want a licensing scheme that tightens up current regulations.

**June 12 2002, This is North Scotland, MSP wants councils to be given more power over sale of fireworks**

**Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**

want a licensing scheme that tightens up current regulations.

**June 12 2002, This is North Scotland, MSP wants councils to be given more power over sale of fireworks**

**John McAllion, Dundee East, MSP, Labour**

"These powerful weapons are becoming instruments of street terror for many of the most vulnerable people in our communities. I want action, and the people of Scotland want action."

**June 13 2002, This is North Scotland, Holyrood may lead UK in tightening up controls on fireworks**

**Dave McLuckie, Councillor, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council**

"The noise nuisance is one issue but we have had incidents of powerful rockets being aimed and fired at property, buses and even people. There is the distinct possibility of serious injury or even fatalities."

**July 23 2002, icTees-side, Taking on firework menace**

**Debra Shipley, Stourbridge MP, Labour**

"Last year a huge number of constituents wrote to me on this issue. Lots of elderly people had been very frightened by fireworks hitting their windows and going off at unexpected times either side of Bonfire Night."

**July 30 2002, The Black Country, MP fired up in call for new rules**

**Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents**

"It shows people are either selling them irresponsibly or irresponsible adults are passing them on to children."

**August 2 2002, icScotland Fireworks warning as accidents soar**

**Arnold Hendry, Structural expert, Edinburgh**

Claims vibrations from fireworks celebrations are damaging Edinburgh's old buildings.

**August 2 2002, icScotland, Fireworks may be cause of building damage**

**Steve Cardownie, Councillor, Edinburgh Leisure chief**

Is backing calls for an investigation into the impact of fireworks. Fireworks vibrations 'dislodging masonry on Edinburgh buildings'

**August 2 2002, icScotland, Fireworks may be cause of building damage**

**Ben Bradshaw, Exeter MP, Labour**

"This kind of loutish behaviour is completely unacceptable."

**August 7 2002, This is Devon, MP adds weight to campaign for firework**

**Hazel Slack, Councillor, Exwick**

"It used to be just bonfire night, but now it could perhaps be time for a change in the law."

**August 9 2002, This is Devon, Residents fear more nights of city firework**

**Sylvia Heal, Halesowen and Rowley Regis MP, DCWM**

"Frankly, these could be more accurately described as minor explosives."

**August 15 2002, This The Black Country, MP's call for `explosives' control**

**David Watkins, The Mayor of Brighton and Hove**

has called for a ban on late-night fireworks in historic squares.

**August 20 2002, This is Brighton and Hove, Mayor calls for late-night fireworks ban**

**Paul Elgood, Councillor, Brighton and Hove, Liberal Democrats**

"Such late-night displays are becoming more frequent."

**August 20 2002, This is Brighton and Hove, Mayor calls for late-night fireworks ban**

**Ross Cranston QC, Dudley North MP, Labour**

"Local people are fed up with the anti-social behaviour, noise nuisance, damage to property and distress to animals caused by what has become a year round pest."

**August 22 2002, Express and Star, Pet owners back firework ban call**

**John McNicholas, Councillor, Coventry Council, Labour**

"This issue has been my biggest post bag for years - everyone enjoys fireworks but not at two o'clock in the morning."

**September 9 2002, icCoventry, Crackdown on city fireworks** By Gareth Lewis

**Andrew Rose, Councillor, St Albans District Council**

"Residents are increasingly voicing their concern that the increased use of fireworks throughout the year is causing a public nuisance.

**September 12 2002, Herts Advertiser, Hot topic raised**

**John Thompson, Police Chief Superintendent, divisional commander for Eastern Division,**

Called for tighter legislation on the sale of fireworks, including a complete ban on newsagents selling them, to halt the annual drain on officers' time.

**September 20 2002, This is Lancashire, Crackdown on fireworks kids**

**Dave Kelly, Councillor, Coventry City Council**

"We are advised to keep our dogs in on Bonfire Night but there are fireworks going off every night. "Our dogs are trained to put up with noise but the constant banging and crashing does their concentration no good."

**September 20 2002, icCoventry, Restrict fireworks, say blind people**

**Archie Graham, Councillor, Glasgow**

"We believe organised displays in a controlled environment are the only safe way to enjoy fireworks."

**September 22 2002, Sunday Mail, Ban the Bangers Councils demand sales crackdown**

**Julie Sturrock, Councillor, Dundee City Council**

"Fireworks have gone from being a celebration to a dangerous public nuisance."

**September 22 2002, Sunday Mail, Ban the Bangers Councils demand sales crackdown**

**John Young OBE West of Scotland, MSP, Conservative**

"It's obvious a voluntary code isn't working. It's high time Scotland was allowed to bring in its own legislation."

**September 22 2002, Sunday Mail, Ban the Bangers Councils demand sales crackdown**

**Andrew Welsh, Angus MSP, Scottish Nationalist Party**

"...the time has come for a complete review of fireworks legislation."

**September 22 2002, Sunday Mail, Ban the Bangers Councils demand sales crackdown**

**The Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland (Acpos)**

Said the rules governing the manufacture, storage, and retail sale of fireworks were "in desperate need of review".

**September 23 2002, The Herald, Police chiefs call for tougher regulations on sale of fireworks**

**David Mellor, a spokesman for The Association of Chief Police Officers in Scotland (Acpos)**

Said a change in legislation was long overdue.

**September 23 2002, The Herald, Police chiefs call for tougher regulations on sale of fireworks**

**Jack Urquhart, The Association of Scottish Police Superintendents,**

"Last year the abuse of fireworks literally rocketed."

**September 23 2002, The Herald, Police chiefs call for tougher regulations on sale of fireworks**

**Sue Marbrow, Councillor, East Staffordshire Borough Council, Liberal Democrat**

"There are big bangs and the elderly are afraid to go out at night."

**September 23 2002, Burton Mail, Firework Fears**

**Ali Chaudhry, Councillor, East Staffordshire Borough Council, Labour member**

"I would urge shopkeepers to refrain from selling fireworks early, before November 5."

**September 23 2002, Burton Mail, Firework Fears**

**Joan Ryan, Enfield North MP, Labour**

Is campaigning for a complete ban on the sale of fireworks.

**September 26 2002, This is Local London, Fireworks campaigners say, Get wise or get hurt**

**Dave McLuckie, Councillor, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council**

"There is no doubt at all that the sale of fireworks to under 18s is a contributory factor to the problems of anti-social behaviour associated with the lead up to bonfire night."

**September 27 2002, This is The North East, Free hotline opens in bid to beat firework jobs**

**Martyn Hubbard, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Leicestershire**

"Each year, we are horrified at the number of animals brought to us for emergency care as a result of firework injuries."

**September 27 2002, This is Leicestershire, Snuff out fireworks misery for animals**

**Phil Willis, Harrogate and Knaresborough MP, Liberal Democrat**

"It is only through public pressure and campaigns such as this that we will get the Government to act and end people's firework misery."

**September 30 2002, Leeds Today, Fireworks misery, end it now!**

**The Yorkshire Evening Post**

Calls on the Government to end the misery of thousands of people across the county.

**September 30 2002, Leeds Today, Fireworks misery, end it now!**



**David Monks, West Yorkshire's assistant chief fire officer**

"I would personally support a ban on sales until 10 days before Bonfire Night as it would reduce the period over which we have those problems."

**September 30 2002, Leeds Today, Fireworks misery, end it now!**

**Tom Terrett, Sunderland Trading Standards officer**

"I would urge all parents to do everything they can to make sure that their children don't get hold of fireworks this year."

**October 1 2002, This is The North East, Firework incident sparks warning**

**Mike Middleton, Northfield Area Forum chairman,**

"I want adults to be responsible and make sure nobody gets their hands on these things who shouldn't."

**October 1 2002, This is North Scotland, Pensioners living in fireworks fear**

**John Woodhead, Chairman, British Fireworks Association and Cosmic Fireworks**

"Whatever is agreed will make a big difference next year and will get rid of a lot of noise and nuisance."

**October 1 2002, Burton Mail, Noisy fireworks set to be banned**

**David Stewart, Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber MP, Labour**

Said he would support a hard line on the issue and back moves to bring in tougher laws on fireworks.

**October 2 2002, This is North Scotland, Call for firework curbs**

**Barry Dixon, Greater Manchester Fire Officer**

Urged that all fireworks need to be handled with care and should be confined to supervised displays.

**October 2 2002, This is Lancashire, Handle with care**

**Alex McDougal, spokesman, Merseyside fire service**

Said every year firefighters come under attack, sometimes from very powerful illegal fireworks.

**October 2 2002, Liverpool Echo, Firefighters attacked by jobs**

**John Woodhead, Chairman, British Fireworks Association and Cosmic Fireworks**

"If Leicester City Council is cracking down on the abuse of fireworks we welcome it entirely."

**October 3 2002, This is Leicestershire, Sounds like a job for noise-busters**

**David Jones, Inspector, Greater Manchester Police**

Supported tighter controls.

**October 3 2002, Salford Advertiser, Bang out of order**

**Hazel Blears, Salford MP, Labour**

"The government needs to look again at how we can best ensure that fireworks can be watched and enjoyed safely."

**October 3 2002, Salford Advertiser, Bang out of order**

**Ian Stewart, Eccles MP, Labour**

Asked for more stringent controls on firework sales.

**October 3 2002, Salford Advertiser, Bang out of order**

**Terry Lewis, Worsley MP, Labour**

Asked for more stringent controls on firework sales.

**October 3 2002, Salford Advertiser, Bang out of order**

**Sue Woodcock, Advisor, Salford Crime Reduction**

"We fully back the (Salford) Advertiser's campaign."

**October 3 2002, Salford Advertiser, Bang out of order**

**David Munro, Councillor, Raigmore**

Current laws concerning the sale of fireworks need to be reviewed.

**October 4 2002, Inverness Courier, Rise in complaints prompt call for clampdown on firework sales**

**David Stewart, Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber MP, Labour**

"Can be used not only to frighten and intimidate some residents but also to shatter their peace and quiet."

**October 4 2002, Inverness Courier, Rise in complaints prompt call for clampdown on firework sales**

**Barry Dixon, Greater Manchester County Fire Service**

"These fireworks should only be used in a controlled environment at public displays."

**October 5 2002, This is Lancashire, Brigade chief's warning over fireworks misuse**

**Roger Vincent, spokesman, Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents**

"We want ongoing talks to try to improve the situation."

**October 5 2002, Leeds Today, Safety campaigners want firework curb**

**John Young OBE West of Scotland, MSP, Conservative**

"We can't just stand back while Scots are being maimed and killed and communities held under siege by mindless thugs throwing fireworks."

**October 6 2002, icScotland, Crackdown on fireworks gets Scots go-ahead**

**Lesley Thornton, Councillor, Oadby and Wigston Borough Council**

"People are sometimes woken and frightened by them because they are saying it is particularly loud."

**October 7 2002, Leicester Mercury, Late-night fireworks 'Frightening animals'**

**Roger Berrington, Councillor, Blaby District Council**

"The number of fireworks being let off locally has been quite high."

**October 7 2002, Leicester Mercury, Late-night fireworks 'Frightening animals'**

**John Woodhead, Chairman, British Fireworks Association and Cosmic Fireworks**

"We are hoping the Department of Trade and Industry will legislate to enforce a ban." (Air-Bombs)

**October 7 2002, icHuddersfield, Ban the 'bomb' plea goes out**

**Colin White, Inspector, Thornaby police**

"I can see no reason why fireworks should not be banned for personal use."

**October 9 2002, This is The North East, Police call for fireworks curb**

**Shona McIsaac, Cleethorpes MP, Labour**

"Something must be done to make the enjoyment of fireworks safe and responsible."

**October 9 2002, this is Scunthorpe, Retailers selling to kids to get a rocket**

**Tony McGuirk, Merseyside's fire chief,**

Today supported the campaign by the council which claims urgent action is needed before someone is killed.

**October 9 2002, Liverpool Echo, Licence Plea on fireworks, Firefighters support call**

**Paul Clein, Councillor, Liverpool Council**

"Urgent action needs to be taken and we believe it is down to the government to introduce new laws."

**October 9 2002, Liverpool Echo, Licence Plea on fireworks, Firefighters support call**

**Alex MacDougall, spokesman, Merseyside Fire Service**

"I fully support Liverpool Council in its calls for legislation to control this menace of fireworks."

**October 9 2002, Liverpool Echo, Licence Plea on fireworks, Firefighters support call**

**The Yorkshire Evening Post**

Our campaign to curb the mindless vandals and thoughtless idiots who terrorise old people, children and animals with fireworks has reached Parliament.

**October 9 2002, Leeds Today, Fireworks ban battle goes to MPs**

**Claire Holbrook, Sergeant, Accrington police**

"..an elderly lady in Oswaldtwistle who was living in fear over fireworks last year...."

**October 10 2002, This is Lancashire, Bid to stop distress of firework misuse**

**Leicester Mercury,**

A record number of residents have complained about people setting off fireworks so far this year,

**October 10 2002, Leicester Mercury, Fireworks draw record moans**

**Greg Stone, Councillor, Dene ward, Newcastle, Liberal Democrat**

"I would like to see the council introduce a policy whereby fireworks sales are only permitted for a week before November 5 and then only to responsible adults."

**October 10 2002, Evening Chronicle, Action called for on sales.**

**David Stewart, Inverness East, Nairn and Lochaber MP, Labour**

Is supporting a move to bring in tougher laws on fireworks knowing the misery they can bring.

**October 10 2002, Highland News, MP's bid to end firework abuse**

**Debra Shipley, Stourbridge MP, Labour**

"It is essential that the Government takes this issue seriously and addresses the concerns that we have expressed about the control of fireworks."

**October 10 2002, Express and Star, Hundreds sign firework fears petition**

**Ian Bellia, Councillor, Brent Council**

"The problems with fireworks don't just stop with injuries."

**October 11 2002, This is Local London, Council tackle firework noise**

**Martyn Fletcher, Inspector, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**

"Every year the RSPCA deals with hundreds of incidents in relation to animals injured by fireworks, not just physically but also psychologically."

**October 11 2002, Manchester Online, Dog is killed by firework thugs**

**Janet Dean, Burton MP, Labour**

Pledged her support to a nationwide petition to introduce controls on the sale and use of fireworks.

**October 11 2002, Burton Mail, MP joins fight on fireworks**

**Shona Robison, North East Scotland, MSP, Scottish Nationalist Party**

Wants to restrict the sale of fireworks by banning "unfit" retailers from the pyrotechnics trade.

**October 11 2002, BBC News 24 Hours Text, Sparks fly over the sale of fireworks**

**Peter Jones, Inspector, Greater Manchester Police**

"This incident demonstrates how dangerous fireworks can be."

**October 11 2002, BBC News, Dog killed by exploding firework**

**Shona Robison, North East Scotland, MSP, Scottish Nationalist Party**

Unveiled a Members' Bill on Wednesday calling for the licensing of all shops selling fireworks.

**October 12 2002, This is Nottingham, MP backs battle on fireworks**

**Dr Nick Palmer, Broxtowe MP, Labour**

"Anything that will restrict the plague of fireworks is very welcome."

**October 12 2002, This is Nottingham, MP backs battle on fireworks**

**Barry Dixon, Greater Manchester County Fire Service**

"Fireworks should only be used in a controlled environment at public displays."

**October 12 2002, Manchester Online, Beating Bonfire Night tragedy**

**The Manchester Evening News and Manchester Online**

The constant problem of people having to endure weeks of late-night noisy explosions caused by youths playing with fireworks.

**October 12 2002, Manchester Online, Beating Bonfire Night tragedy**

**Manchester Evening News**

Already the nuisance, fear and downright danger caused by the firework season is in full swing

**October 12 2002, Manchester Evening News, Ban is only way to end menace.**

**Tom Maginnis, Councillor, Coatbridge**

"I don't believe the current legislation is adequate."

**October 12 2002, icLanarkshire, A noisy nuisance**

**Crawford Morgan, head of protective services, North Lanarkshire Council**

"North Lanarkshire Council is aware, as is every council in Scotland, of the problems relating to the use and abuse of fireworks, particularly in the period outwith the Guy Fawkes celebrations.

**October 12 2002, icLanarkshire, Fireworks misery for Shotts area**

**John McNicholas, Councillor, Coventry Council, Labour**

"Fireworks and the noise and disturbance they bring to people with pets, young children or older people has been by far the biggest issue in my postbag for the past two years."

**October 12 2002, icCoventry, Council back firework petition**

**Peter Brandon, Station Officer, Bolton Central**

"I cannot understand why people could be so reckless as to do something like this."

**October 14 2002, This is Lancashire, Firemen blasted by rockets**

**Ian Coop, Sergeant, Bolton Police**

"Fireworks are not toys. They can kill."

**October 14 2002, This is Lancashire, Firemen blasted by rockets**

**Harold Best, Leeds North West MP, Labour**

"There are parts of Leeds where there are explosions all hours of the day and night. We need legislation."

**October 14 2002, Yorkshire Evening Post, Fireworks from MP**

**Tony Shenton, Consultant, Bradford A&E**

"We think that fireworks should only be set off in organised public displays."

**October 15 2002, This is Bradford, Campaign to target firework injury toll**

**Coventry City Council**

Is lobbying for its own bylaws to stop fireworks being let off late at night.

**October 15 2002, icCoventry, Crackdown on firework menace**

**Nottingham Evening Post**

How many more for each year of inactivity before a Government serves the causes of safety and sound sense?

**October 15 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Action long overdue on fireworks**

**Mike Wood, Batley and Spen MP, Labour**

Calling on the Government to end the misery of residents fed up with hearing fireworks all year round.

**October 16 2002, Leeds Today, MP takes fireworks campaign to No. 10**

**Bill Cash, Stone MP, Conservative**

Campaigning for tougher laws on the sale of fireworks.

**October 16 2002, Express and Star, MP's delight over firework spot fines**

**Tom Watson, West Bromwich East MP, Labour**

"We want a change in the law to restrict the time of year that fireworks can be sold and the time of day they

can be let off. My constituents are left in misery for weeks each year when they are on sale."  
**October 16 2002, BBC News 24, West Midlands, More than 1, 000 sign firework petition.**

**Stuart Jones, Public relations officer, Nottingham branch of the National Federation of the Blind**  
We believe there should be a total ban on fireworks being sold in the shops.  
**October 16 2002, This is Nottingham, Spare a thought for the people you scare**

**Mick Cox, Station officer, Cheshire Fire Service**  
"We strongly recommend that people only attend organised firework displays."  
**October 17 2002, This is Cheshire, Firework warning for town traders**

**John McNicholas, Councillor, Coventry Council, Labour**  
Is backing a national petition on behalf of the city which is due to be presented at No. 10 Downing Street next week calling for tighter regulation of fireworks.  
**October 17 2002, Coventry City Council, No. 10 firework petition gets Coventry backing**

**Maxine Brotherton, Councillor, Denholme**  
"There were a lot of complaints from people on Monday morning about fireworks going off and being put through people's letterboxes."  
**October 18 2002, This is Bradford, Rogue firework traders face crackdown**

**Anne Jay, Councillor, Town Mayor, Denholme**  
"I'm not aware of anywhere selling fireworks in Denholme -- they must have been bought elsewhere."  
**October 18 2002, This is Bradford, Rogue firework traders face crackdown**

**The Yorkshire Evening Post**  
The campaign to end our readers' firework misery has won a massive thumbs up from the House of Commons.  
**October 19 2002, Leeds Today, Bang out of order**

**John Battle, Leeds West MP, Labour**  
John Battle has proposed a licensing system which would effectively halt sales of fireworks in the High Street and corner shops.  
**October 19 2002, Leeds Today, Bang out of order**

**Alan Campbell, Tynemouth MP**  
"Many of my constituents are fed up with youngsters causing mayhem with fireworks."  
**October 19 2002, Evening Chronicle, Plea on bangers**

**Roman Leszczyszyn, head of consumer protection, Leicester City Council**  
"Fireworks are not getting more powerful, they're getting louder. When they are put into a confined space, like a letter box, their explosive effect is amplified."  
**Leicester Mercury, 21 October 2002, Post box firework attack sparks danger warning**

**Janet Dean, Burton MP, Labour**  
has written to the Prime Minister calling for a change in firework laws.  
**October 21 2002, Burton Mail, Plea to change firework laws**

**Stuart Hughes, Councillor, Devon County Council**  
"They seem to be available almost all year round and their misuse can cause a lot of distress as well as being dangerous."  
**October 22 2002, This is Devon, Safety chief calls for ban on fireworks**

**Jim Dobbin, Heywood and Middleton MP, Labour/Co-op**  
I believe that there is an overwhelming support for a fireworks ban.  
**October 22, 2002, Manchester Online, Jim Dobbin MP explains his fireworks bill**

**Spokesman, Mid Cheshire Hospitals Trust**

"We welcome anything that is going to cut down on the number of injuries we have to deal with resulting from firework misuse."

**October 23 2002, icCheshire Online, Fireworks legislation**

**Nigel Strick, head of Oxfordshire Trading Standards**

"We have grave concerns that fireworks that can be legitimately sold are getting bigger."

**October 24 2002, This is Oxfordshire, Firework laws 'too relaxed'**

**John Briggs, Deputy Chief Superintendent, Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**

"Since the millennium we have seen an increase in the number of firework cases at New Year -extending the period of misery for Scotland's animals."

**October 24 2002, The Highland News, Plea to ease fireworks plight of pets**

**Maggie Page, Researcher, Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**

"The firework problem affects the vulnerable and defenceless and is impossible to escape."

**October 24 2002, The Highland News, Plea to ease fireworks plight of pets**

**Huddersfield Examiner**

Huddersfield MP Barry Sheerman has given his full backing to the Examiner's Stop The Yobs campaign.

**October 24 2002, Huddersfield Examiner, MP backing our battle against the hooligans**

**Tony Cunningham, Workington MP, Labour**

"In the past, fireworks were let off in the week before Bonfire Night but it appears now they are going off all the time and people are fed up," he said.

**October 25 2002, The West Cumberland Times and Star, Firework petition goes to no 10**

**Peter Corbett, Councillor, Merkinch, Inverness**

"I would like to see really strict control and the registering of all the people who buy fireworks."

**October 25 2002, The Inverness Courier, Fireworks clampdown 'damp squib'**

**Robert Simpson, Councillor, Staffordshire County Council**

The Roman Candle was a display firework and not suitable for small gardens.

**October 25 2002, Express and Star, Dangerous firework could cause injuries**

**Robert Light, Councillor, Kirklees Council, Conservative**

"It is a matter of concern that, although Bonfire Night is celebrated around November 5, fireworks are being let off on our streets throughout autumn and winter."

**October 26 2002, icHuddersfield, Call for curb on fireworks**

**Gordon Prentice, Pendle MP, Labour**

"It is certainly time that something was done to improve things."

**October 28 2002, This is Lancashire, Prentice welcomes fireworks move**

**Nigel Evans, Ribble Valley MP, Conservative**

"Fireworks are dangerous and we need to ensure proper control of fireworks."

**October 28 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework accidents may spark new laws**

**Greg Pope, Hyndburn MP, Labour**

Called for the government to bring in the new regulations now.

**October 28 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework accidents may spark new laws**

**Gordon Prentice, Pendle MP, Labour**

"I much hope new measures will improve the situation but, if not, we must look at introducing harsher measures."

**October 28 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework accidents may spark new laws**

**Bradford? Evening News**

More controls are urgently needed, and calls for banning the sale of fireworks to the public are becoming more urgent.

**October 28 2002, This is Lancashire, BEN opinion Firework truth**

**Scottish Daily Express**

Our researchers found eight out of 10 outlets sold potentially lethal rockets and bangers to 15-year-old.

**October 28 2002, Scottish Daily Express, Firework sales alarm, By Sarah Westcott, Consumer Editor**

**Keith Hill, Streatham MP, Labour**

"We all want to enjoy the fireworks season, but too often this time of year is blighted by problems of fireworks misuse, noise and nuisance. "I particularly welcome the moves to ban air bombs and mini rockets, the two prime culprits used in anti-social behaviour."

**October 28 2002, Local London, Firework danger**

**Kevin Dodds, Councillor, Gateshead Council**

Calls for stricter fireworks controls

**October 28 2002, Evening Chronicle, Fireworks action plea**

**Harrogate Council**

Asked retailers around the town to help clamp down on the misuse of fireworks by restricting their sale until after October 26

**October 28 2002, Harrogate Today New salvo against fireworks nuisance**

**Yorkshire Evening Post**

The Yorkshire Evening Post is calling for a ban on sales until 10 days before Bonfire Night.

**October 29 2002, Leeds Today, Rogue traders are hitting us hard**

**Bob Lee, Sergeant, Rugeley Police**

Believed that fireworks should not be sold to the public, and be restricted to professional displays only

**October 29 2002, Express and Star, Cars and buildings targets for fireworks**

**Betty Williams, Conwy MP, Labour**

"Slowly the message is getting through to the industry that there is a growing demand for greater control to ensure the responsible use of fireworks."

**October 29 2002, Chester Evening Leader, Pioneer reader's views go straight to the top**

**Mike Weir, Angus MP, Scottish National Party**

Calling for a time limit when fireworks can be sold.

**October 30 2002, Ulster TV, Firework regulations bid**

**John Barrett, Edinburgh West MP, Liberal Democrat**

"It's not a case of being a killjoy ... but it is time we had better regulation."

**October 30 2002, Ulster TV, Firework regulations bid**

**Russell Brown, Dumfries MP, Labour**

The firework season was not confined to a week either side of Bonfire Night in his constituency, but had started two months ago.

**October 30 2002, Ulster TV, Firework regulations bid**

**Adrian Bailey, West Bromwich West MP, Labour/Co-op**

Anti-social use of fireworks made some people's lives "hell"

**October 30 2002, Ulster TV, Firework regulations bid**

**Dr Brian Iddon, Bolton South East MP, Labour, and professional chemist.**

There should be a ban on the sale of large ones.

**October 30 2002, Ulster TV, Firework regulations bid**

**Shona Robison, North East Scotland, MSP, Scottish Nationalist Party**

"I am particularly disappointed that RS McColl's have still failed to reply to my letter, which complained about their irresponsible sale of fireworks well outwith three week period in the existing voluntary code."

**October 30 2002, SNP politicians welcome voluntary code on fireworks**

**Joe FitzPatrick, Councillor, Dundee City Council**

"The problem is that there is currently no legal framework to penalise the few stores including RS McColl's who continue to ignore it."

**October 30 2002, SNP politicians welcome voluntary code on fireworks**

**Paul Richardson, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service**

"It is preferable and safer for them to go to an organised display."

**October 30 2002, Preston Today, Ban them now!**

**Mike Weir, Angus MP, Scottish National Party**

Called for a time limit when fireworks can be sold.

**October 30 2002, Manchester Online, Limit firework sales say MPs**

**Leicester Mercury**

More people than ever are complaining about the daily racket caused by fireworks in Leicester.

**October 30 2002, Leicester Mercury, You're bang out of order!**

**John Cairns, safety officer for the Fire Brigades Union,**

"We are appalled, attacks are becoming more and more common".

**October 30 2002, Daily Mirror, Firemen attacked by gang**

**Linda Gilroy, Plymouth MP, Labour/Co-op**

Sales of fireworks should be banned at certain times of the year to reduce the number of injuries and deaths,

**October 31 2002, This is Devon, MP Backs Limits On Firework Sales**

**Helen Jones, Warrington North MP, Labour**

"The time has come to introduce tight restrictions."

**October 31 2002, This is Cheshire, MP supports call for more rules on sale of fireworks**

**Richard Bertin, Councillor, Barry Town**

"Controlled sales need to take place."

**October 31 2002, This is Barry, Fireworks sales 'must be limited'**

**The Yorkshire Evening Post**

The YEP launched its Save the Fireworks for Bonfire Night campaign after teenage yobs misusing them in the streets left hundreds of readers terrified.

**October 31 2002, Leeds Today, Bangers 'n smash**

**John McNicholas, Councillor, Coventry Council, Labour**

"The opportunity of a local by-law will enable us to have a tighter control on when fireworks can be set off."

**October 31, 2002, icCoventry, City to consider firework ban**

**Alan Campbell, Tynemouth MP, Labour**

"Many constituents regard this as a quality of life issue."

**October 31 2002, Evening Chronicle, Firework call**

**Brian Ferries, Superintendent, Strathclyde Police**

"It is just by sheer luck that we have not had a serious injury in the last few weeks."

**October 31, 2002, BBC News Scotland, Firework complaints rocket**

**Dr Brian Iddon, Bolton South East MP, Labour, and professional chemist.**



"Those are huge explosives and I am alarmed at the size of fireworks on sale to the general public."  
**November 1 2002, ManchesterOnline, MP's call to ban rockets**

**Fiona Mactaggart, Slough MP, Labour**

"And I will continue to press for further regulation of fireworks."

**November 1 2002, icBerkshire, Citizens demand action on fireworks**

**Nottingham Evening Post**

The RSPCA is backing the Post's call for a fireworks ban.

**November 2 2002, This is Nottingham, RSPCA- We back Post's campaign**

**Paula Riley, Councillor, Burnley Council**

To support the request for Lancashire County Council to introduce a by-law to ban the sale of fireworks in shops.

**November 2 2002, This is Lancashire, Airbombs attack sparks demand for firework ban**

**Paul Sherman, Explosives expert, Greater Manchester Fire Service**

"If the same amount of explosive charge was used in a different way it would create a bomb which would cause significant injuries and fatalities.

**November 2 2002, ManchesterOnline, A killer for sale**

**Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**

Is worried about the effect fireworks have on pets.

**November 2 2002, Leeds Today, Bonfire safety plea**

**Kurt Vandamme, Senior veterinary surgeon, PDSA PetAid hospital, Barker Butts, Coventry,**

"All pets see is a very frightening situation that seems to have come out of the blue.

**November 2 2002, icCoventry, Ensure your pets are safe not sorry**

**Paul Martin, Glasgow Springburn MSP, Labour**

Is demanding government action after it was revealed that Scots cops had been called to nearly 2,000 dangerous fireworks incidents with Bonfire Night still three days away.

**November 2 2002, Daily Mirror, MSP in firework ban call,**

**Ms Sandra White, Glasgow MSP, Scottish Nationalist Party**

"No one should underestimate the carnage created by fireworks in the wrong hands."

**November 2 2002, Daily Mirror, MSP in firework ban call,**

**Sunday Sun**

Three stores belonging to Britain's top supermarket chains have been caught out selling fireworks to underage kids

**November 3, 2002, Sunday Sun, Big three flout ban**

**Kay Brandist, North west regional manager, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**

"Over the years we have become increasingly concerned by the physical and psychological injuries caused to animals by fireworks."

**November 4 2002, ManchesterOnline, Stay Safe campaign wins backing**

**Dr Lynne Jones, Birmingham, Selly Oak MP, Labour**

Has called for firework licences to be introduced in order to halt an increase in serious injuries and to stop the illegal trade in pyrotechnics

**November 4 2002, icBirmingham, Demand grows for firework laws**

**Margaret Wells, Councillor, Birmingham City Council**

"We can't have people, like the elderly, frightened to leave their house for two months because of the threat of fireworks,"

**November 4 2002, icBirmingham, Demand grows for firework laws**

**Adrian Bailey, West Bromwich West MP, Labour/Co-op**

Visited Wednesbury to talk to residents and shoppers about the nuisance caused by reckless use of fireworks  
**November 4 2002, Express and Star, Call for end to bonfire fright**

**David Chidgey, Eastleigh MP, Liberal Democrat**

"It is time for the government to introduce tougher, compulsory controls over the sale and use of fireworks.  
**November 5 2002, This is Hampshire, MP demands crackdown on fireworks**

**Jim Potts, chief trading standards officer for Lancashire**

"People are heartily sick of fireworks noise nuisance and misuse. The whole industry needs to tighten up."  
**November 5 2002, Preston Today, Rocket blasts through roof**

**Manchester Evening News**

THE *Manchester Evening News* handed the government a terrifying dossier highlighting the injuries and devastation caused by fireworks  
**November 5, 2002, Manchester News, Fireworks dossier handed over**

**Chris Laurence, Chief veterinary officer, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**

"We are horrified by the number of animals brought to us for emergency care as a result of firework injuries."  
**November 5 2002, icWales, Farmers warning over fireworks**

**Alan Morris, Farmers' Union of Wales**

"Everyone knows of the dangers to household pets from fireworks, but perhaps less well known among the general public is the harm that they can cause to livestock."  
**November 5 2002, icWales, Farmers warning over fireworks**

**Dan Jones, National Farmers' Union Cymru**

"There are many powerful fireworks on the market and these rockets go a long way and could cause a fire. They also frighten the farm animals, particularly dogs."  
**November 5 2002, icWales, Farmers warning over fireworks**

**Clive Mason, station officer, Sheldon Fire Station**

"We have enough legitimate incidents without those started by these idiots."  
**November 5 2002, icBirmingham, Yobs 'hell bent' on bonfire mayhem**

**Jeff Whitmore, Inspector, Nottingham Police**

"It was like Beirut down there. You couldn't hear yourself think for fireworks going off. "They were being used as missiles instead of displays."  
**November 6 2002, This is Nottingham, Police chief says, 'It was like Beirut'**

**Nottingham Evening Post**

Staff at Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue back the Post's Be Safe not Sorry campaign.  
**November 6 2002, This is Nottingham, A hard day's night**

**Northern Echo**

I still don't understand what prevents Government from taking the obvious, and popular, step needed regarding firework control.  
**November 6 2002, Northern Echo, Of old bangers, and crackers in Darlington**

**Brian Wroe, Chief Superintendent, Salford Police**

"My officers have responded every night to disorder involving fireworks since the beginning of October."  
**November 6 2002, ManchesterOnline, Terror attack by firework thugs**

**Tony Wright, Cannock Chase MP, Labour**

"I have been campaigning for tougher controls on fireworks for a long time."

**November 6 2002, Express and Star, Pledge on fireworks is welcomed**

**Evening Times,**

Thousands of annoyed or frightened Scots being made to feel like they are living in a bombed-out Bosnia.

**November 6, 2002, Evening Times, Why 'war zone' fears spoil the fireworks fun**

**Sue Marbrow, Councillor, East Staffordshire Borough Council**

Is looking into launching a campaign for a national firework ban.

**November 6 2002, Burton Mail, Police patrol troubled area**

**David Crausby, Bolton North East MP, Labour**

The numerous problems that fireworks cause is back with us once again.

**November 7 2002, This is Lancashire, By David Crausby, MP for Bolton North-East**

**Leicester Mercury**

We don't want to be kept awake by irresponsible people celebrating into the early hours or put at risk by young hooligans.

**November 7, 2002, Leicester Mercury, Fireworks, Time to act on the evidence**

**Sue Anderson, Councillor, Birmingham City Council, Liberal Democrats**

"Fireworks are getting louder and potentially more dangerous and often pets suffer the fallout and injuries.

**November 7 2002, icBirmingham, Girl trio sparks fireworks alert**

**Geraldine Peacock, Chief executive, Guide Dogs**

"Sudden loud noises can distress guide and assistance dogs so much that they are unable to work."

**November 7 2002, Courier co uk, Fireworks curb call**

**John McNicholas, Councillor, Coventry City Council**

"But some government action is needed to help balance out the needs of everyone to enjoy, but not be disturbed, by fireworks."

**November 7, 2002, BBC News, Move to restrict fireworks**

**West Cumberland Times and Star,**

Hasn't the time come to outlaw them completely?

**November 8 2002, West Cumberland Times and Star, Is it time to forget the Fifth**

**Jonathan Silk, regional manager, Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals**

Said the public had a right to be concerned about the use of fireworks.

**November 8 2002, This is Somerset, RSPCA campaign against public fireworks use**

**David Crausby, Bolton North East MP, Labour**

"The menace caused by fireworks increases year on year. Will the minister consider legislation, not voluntary codes, to restrict severely the retail of fireworks?"

**November 8 2002, This is Lancashire, 'Get tough, Firework plan 'not tough enough'**

**Andrew Gravells, Councillor, Gloucester City Council**

"I hope the Government will soon take steps to both limit the period in which fireworks can be sold.

**November 8 2002, This is Gloucestershire, Firework nearly hit my dog**

**Paul Whitaker, Councillor, Skipton Council**

Suggested that a by-law could be introduced requiring anyone who wanted to have a firework party, at any time of the year, to get permission first.

**November 8 2002, This is Bradford, Town wants clampdown on fireworks**

**Paul English, Councillor, Skipton Council**

Said fireworks were still getting into youngsters' hands, weeks before bonfire night.

**November 8 2002, This is Bradford, Town wants clampdown on fireworks**

**Adrian Bailey, West Bromwich West MP, Labour/Co-operative**  
Launched a campaign in Wednesbury to clamp down on the use of fireworks  
**November 8 2002, Express and Star, Fireworks blamed for missing dog**

**George Foulkes, Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley MP, Labour/Co-operative**  
"This time of year is blighted by problems of fireworks misuse, noise and nuisance."  
**November 8, 2002, Ayrshire Post, Ban bangers**

**Leeds City Council's Labour, Liberal Democrat, Conservative and Green groups**  
Are calling on the Government to introduce tougher restrictions.  
**November 9 2002, Leeds Today, Rocket for firework mavericks**

**Stewart Golton, Councillor, Weetwood**  
"It is time for the Government to introduce tougher, compulsory controls."  
**November 9 2002, Leeds Today, Rocket for firework mavericks**

**Andrew Carter, Councillor, Leeds**  
"The Government should now urgently consider the licensing of fireworks and limiting their use."  
**November 9 2002, Leeds Today, Rocket for firework mavericks**

**Wolverhampton Over 50's Forum**  
Campaigners want fireworks banned in designated areas of Wolverhampton,  
**November 9 2002, Express and Star, Firework ban campaign underway**

**Brian Richmond, Councillor, Gateshead**  
"What we are seeing is certain types of fireworks being misused."  
**November 11 2002, Evening Chronicle, Call to tighten Firework Controls**

**Andrew Waller, Councillor, York**  
Wants to restrict the sale of excessively noisy fireworks.  
**November 12 2002, This is York, Call to restrict firework sales**

**Connel Boyle, Councillor, Exeter**  
Wants only licensed parties allowed.  
**November 12 2002, This is Devon, Firework 'bombs' terror sparks call for shop**

**Manchester Evening News**  
The M.E.N. also told of a 60 per cent rise in people injured by fireworks on the street  
**November 13 2002, ManchesterOnline, New curb on firework jobs**

**Nottingham Evening Post**  
Our Be Safe Not Sorry campaign urges the Government to ban the sale of fireworks to the public.  
**November 14 2002, This is Nottingham, Victory, Crusade pays off**

**Manchester Evening News**  
"We have printed many news stories about people whose lives have been devastated by fireworks."  
**November 14 2002, ManchesterOnline, 'Air Bombs' to be banned**

**David Blunkett, Home Secretary**  
"I think we need to look at whether we need more legislative back-up for that."  
**November 14 2002, Leeds Today, Blunkett backs curbs on fireworks**

**Nigel Strick, head of Trading standards, Oxfordshire**  
"Some of the fireworks being sold legally across the counter are huge explosives."  
**November 15 2002, This is Oxfordshire, Tighter firework laws wanted**

**Neil Fawcett, executive member, Oxfordshire**

Said some fireworks could be compared to weapons.

**November 15 2002, This is Oxfordshire, Tighter firework laws wanted**

**Anne Purse, executive member, Oxfordshire**

"The fireworks season seems to go on and on."

**November 15 2002, This is Oxfordshire, Tighter firework laws wanted**

**Tom Mawston, Councillor, Middlesbrough**

Said there was now a ludicrous situation where "bangers" had been banned but people could now buy "bombs".

**November 15 2002, icTeesside, Ban firework sales**

**Oliver Johnson, Councillor, Middlesbrough**

Said a total ban on fireworks was the only answer to the problem.

**November 15 2002, icTeesside, Ban firework sales**

**Kali Mountford, Colne Valley MP, Labour**

A BAN on the sale of fireworks to the public may be the only way to stop injuries

**November 15 2002, icHuddersfield, MP's plea on firework injuries**

**Sue Marbrow, Councillor, East Staffordshire Borough Council**

"Under my petition people won't be able to go into a shop and buy a box of fireworks."

**November 15 2002, Burton Mail, Call for ban on sale of fireworks**

**Chris Blakeley, Councillor, Wirral Council**

The only way of achieving the banning of retail sales of fireworks is through an act of Parliament.

**November 15 2002, icCheshireOnline, Chester Chronicle letters**

**John Battle, Leeds West MP, Labour**

Is launching a head-on challenge calling for a ban on over-the-counter sales.

**November 18 2002, Leeds Today, Don't let this misery go on another year**

**Richard Ottaway, Croydon South MP, Conservative**

"There is a growing intolerance to fireworks being let off for days on end in the period running up to Guy Fawkes night and beyond."

**November 19 2002, Local London, Tories demand firework curbs**

**Steve O'Connell, Councillor, Kenley**

Has accused some retailers of turning a blind eye to underage children making purchases.

**November 19 2002, Local London, Tories demand firework curbs**

**Richard Ottaway, Croydon South MP, Conservative**

"Undoubtedly there is a growing intolerance of fireworks being let off for days on end in the period running up to Guy Fawkes night and beyond

**November 19 2002, icCroydon, MP backs campaign to restrict fireworks**

**Steve O'Connell, Councillor, Kenley**

"The Kenley area has been plagued in the last three weeks by the anti-social use of fireworks."

**November 19 2002, icCroydon, MP backs campaign to restrict fireworks**

**Connel Boyle, Councillor, St Thomas**

"There is anger about this."

**November 20 2002, This is Devon, Support mounting for fireworks campaign**

**South Somerset District Council**

Is to consider approaching the Local Government Association, calling on members to lobby the Government

for tighter restrictions on the sale of fireworks.

**November 25 2002, This is The West Country, Council in call for firework control**

**Ross Henley, Councillor, Wellington**

Said it is time to end months of misery caused by fireworks exploding at all hours of the night.

**November 29 2002, Somerset County Gazette, End menace of fireworks, call**

**Adrian Russell, regulatory services director, Leicestershire**

"We would be looking for better control of the type of fireworks on sale."

**December 2 2002, This is Leicestershire, Firework chaos sparks appeal to Government**

**Keith Vaz, Leicester East MP, Labour**

"There should be controls on the sale of fireworks."

**December 2 2002, This is Leicestershire, Firework chaos sparks appeal to Government**

**The Yorkshire Evening Post**

The Yorkshire Evening Post's campaign for tough controls on fireworks is being taken to Europe.

**December 2 2002, Leeds Today, Fight for new laws goes to Europe**

**David Bowe, Yorkshire MEP, Labour**

It is hoped that the European Commission may be able to have an impact on the misery caused across the country by the irresponsible sale and use of fireworks.

**December 2 2002, Leeds Today, Fight for new laws goes to Europe**

**Maurice Jones, Councillor, Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council**

It is my personal opinion that the use of fireworks by members of the public should be banned and only safe, organised firework displays should be allowed.

**December 4 2002, icCheshireOnline, South Cheshire Chronicle letters**

**Andrew Carter, Councillor, Leeds**

"What I would call display fireworks are on sale to the general public and can be used as offensive weapons to terrorise people."

**December 5 2002, Leeds Today, City sends out call to back YEP campaign**

**Bob Ainsworth, Jim Cunningham and Geoffrey Robinson, Coventry MPs, Labour**

Are supporting a petition by the city council to curb the use of dangerous fireworks.

**December 6 2002, icCoventry, MPs back firework petition**

**Connel Boyle, Councillor, St Thomas**

"I would say fireworks should be sold only days before Bonfire Night, say just 48 hours."

**December 10 2002, This is Devon, Councillor demanding limit on firework sales**

**Michael Todd, Chief constable, Greater Manchester**

Backed our campaign by voting for a total ban.

**December 13 2002, Manchester Evening News, Our own fire chief constable backs total ban**

**Roy Williamson, Chief fire officer, Humberside**

"People injured, fires started, noise disturbance over a two month period . . . this must be classed as anti-social and is certainly a disgraceful lack of consideration with regards to animals."

**December 13 2002, Manchester Evening News, Our own fire chief constable backs total ban**

**Manchester Evening News**

The Manchester Evening News. is stepping up its campaign for a ban on over-the-counter sales of fireworks.

**December 13 2002, ManchesterOnline, News, Fireworks, We won't let our campaign fizzle out**

**Ronnie Campbell, Blyth Valley MP, Labour**

"The thing that worries me about fireworks is the power of them because they are very noisy and very powerful,"

**December 16 2002, Evening Chronicle, Firework ban is backed by 1,700**

**Manchester Evening News**

They kill, maim and mean misery for many - and they are on sale over the festive period at a store near you.

**December 27 2002, ManchesterOnline, News, Menace of festive fireworks**

**Barry Dixon, Greater Manchester County Fire Service**

Has said that fireworks should only be used in a controlled environment at public displays.

**December 27 2002, ManchesterOnline, News, Menace of festive fireworks**

**Michael Todd, Chief Constable, Greater Manchester Police**

Has backed our campaign for a total ban on sales.

**December 27 2002, Manchester Evening News, Menace of festive fireworks**

## **Petitions against Fireworks**

The campaign is also being pursued by animal rights activist Allison Black of Petsearch who said urgent action is needed to stop animals being injured or even scared to death by fireworks.

Allison has already collected 4,500 names on a petition calling for firework legislation, and Mr Cairns is collecting more signatures on another petition in libraries and other public places.

**March 12 2002, Greenock Telegraph Online, MP joins battle to ban fireworks**

The Authority has also backed a move by residents who have presented Tynemouth MP Alan Campbell with a 2,893 name petition calling for a ban on bangers and for fireworks only to be sold in the two weeks before November 5th.

**March 26 2002, Newcastle Evening Chronicle, Scourge of arson**

COFFAW's petition has been signed by 130,000 people - 12,000 of them from Notts. So here are another 130,000 allies in the drive to have the sale of fireworks restricted to the organisers of licensed public displays.

**March 30 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Firework Fight: 130,000 Allies**

The signatures of 12,500 Notts residents demanding a ban on firework sales to the public have been handed to MPs at Westminster.

**April 11 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Fireworks Notts Call For a Ban**

Mrs Pamela Pearson, who runs her own Prevent Unwanted Pets animal welfare charity, has collected more than 300 signatures to back her campaign.

**April 12 2002, This is Lancashire, Call for new laws on firework sales**

Mr Norton has organised a petition on behalf of Kipper, which has been signed by more than 1,000 people.

**May 30 2002, This is Bristol, Please put an end to pet hate - fireworks**

A campaign to regulate fireworks has the enthusiastic backing of Walthamstow MP Neil Gerrard.

He is planning to present a petition from local people to Prime Minister Tony Blair.

**June 11 2002, This is Local London, Firework campaign seeks public support**

Dudley North MP Ross Cranston said hundreds of signatures to a petition calling for restrictions on fireworks sales had been obtained from customers of Black and Partners in Sedgley and Dudley who are concerned about the affect on pets of loud bangs during the weeks around Bonfire Night.

**August 22 2002, Express and Star, Pet owners back firework ban call**

Cleethorpes MP, Shona McIsaac, earlier this year, launched a petition to illustrate the level of public support on tighter controls of fireworks. It was originally sent to residents' associations and veterinary clinics in the constituency. So far more than 2,000 signatures have been collected.

**October 9 2002, This is Scunthorpe, Retailers selling to kids to get a rocket**

More than 350 people have signed a petition calling on the government for tighter controls on fireworks.

**October 10 2002, Express and Star, Hundreds sign firework fears petition**

The 200,000-name petition, organised by Labour MP for Brent North Barry Gardiner, is to be delivered to Downing Street on October 16.

**October 11 2002, Burton Mail, MP joins fight on fireworks,**

We asked yesterday if you thought that the sale of fireworks to the public should be banned. An overwhelming majority of you said that they should

YES 98%

NO 2%

**October 12 2002, Manchester Evening News, How you voted on fireworks**

Labour MP for West Bromwich East, Tom Watson, is presenting his petition signed by more than 1,000 residents of Sandwell to the Prime Minister.

**October 16 2002, BBC News 24, West Midlands, More than 1, 000 sign firework petition**

THE town's MP is turning up the heat on the campaign to tighten up firework laws by handing over a petition to the Prime Minister. Laura Moffatt explained she has collected more than 1,000 resident's signatures to add to a country-wide list of almost 200,000.

**October 17 2002, icSurrey Online, MP calls for stringent fireworks control**

Tynemouth MP Alan Campbell has handed in national petition calling for tougher controls on fireworks.

**October 19 2002, Evening Chronicle, Plea on bangers**

More than 350 Stourbridge people have signed a petition calling on the government for tighter controls on fireworks.

**October 24 2002, Express and Star, Fireworks penalty warning from police**

A phone poll showed an overwhelming 94% of voters - 466 callers - called for a ban on fireworks on general sale. Only 6% - 28 callers - believed they should not be banned.

**October 30 2002, Preston Today, Ban them now!**

The RSPCA is calling for loud fireworks to be banned and is urging people to attend only organised displays after a poll showed almost three-quarters of the population backed a ban on the sale of loud fireworks.

A MORI poll for the RSPCA shows 71 per cent of those questioned thought loud fireworks should be restricted to public displays.

**November 4 2002, ManchesterOnline, Stay Safe campaign wins backing**

They are backing a petition - set up by Beacon Heath residents - to ask the Government to ban the sale of noisy fireworks to the public, unless prospective users have a license.

**November 9 2002, This is Devon, Dog-owners' fear at bomb-style bangers**

An astounding 99 per cent of you want tougher legislation on fireworks.

Our phone poll revealed the huge majority of readers support a campaign to curb the sale and use of the explosives.

Now Ogmores MP Huw Irranca-Davies wants you to sign his petition calling for restrictions on the times fireworks can be set off and the giving trading standards the power to strip shops of their licence if they are caught selling them to children.

**November 9 2002, icWales, Blast off**



Mrs Pam Pearson has so far collected thousands of names on a petition proposing the introduction of a limited sales period for fireworks. The petition also proposes that only authorised "responsible" people are allowed to purchase and display the fireworks.

**November 15 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework protest hots-up**

**Should fireworks be restricted to organised displays**

Yes 76.67 %

No 23.33 %

**November 20 2002, Voter results from Horsham on line**

The City Council is reminding residents who want a change in the use and sale of fireworks to sign a petition before the 20th December that will be sent to the Deputy Prime Minister.

**December 4 2002, icCoventry, Sign for change in firework legislation**

A Campaign in Blyth Valley to control firework sales has been backed by more than 1,700 people.

**December 16 2002, Evening Chronicle, Firework ban is backed by 1,700**

## Readers Letters

Yet again it's 10pm and fireworks are still being let off!

S W, Dartford

**January 2 2002, This is Local London, Fireworks are keeping us up all night long**

What is it with these pyrotechnic maniacs that possess them to continually blast off fireworks, day after day?

Name and address supplied.

**January 3 2002, This is Stratford, Call for a general ban on fireworks**

Every weekend since the summer has been marked by increasingly noisy fireworks.

P R, Hove

**January 7 2002, This is Mid Sussex, Firework plea**

However, as a council taxpayer and therefore a funder of this project I object to my money being spent on fireworks to traumatise our animals and destroy our historic buildings.

S. T. Buckstone Loan East, Edinburgh

**January 8 2002, Edinburgh Evening News, Fireworks no fun for our wildlife**

The proliferation of firework parties at all times of the year can only make further accidents more likely.

T L

**January 10 2002, This is Bradford, Rocket turned car into a `roadster`**

I would just like to say that I am in total favour of a firework ban. It's now January 5, 2002, 10pm and two more have just been set off. I can only think the people setting them off are selfish inconsiderate morons, so the sooner a total ban is introduced the better.

K C, Bramcote

**January 10 2002, Evening Post, Letters, Why I want a firework ban.**

The extreme bangers do great harm by bringing distress not only to the elderly and the sick (and many others) but by terrifying most animals, too, even when they are kept indoors.

R L C, Radcliffe on Trent.

**January 10 2002, Evening Post, Letters, Not following tradition**

I would like to add my support to the campaign to ban noisy fireworks and to reduce the length of time during which they can be purchased and set off..

Name and address supplied.

**January 10 2002, Evening Post, Letters, Noise is just too much**

We would like to see a ban on the use of any fireworks after 11pm, except when used by an approved organisation as part of an organised display.

N W, Heathfield

**January 17 2002, This is Mid Sussex, Spark of hope**

So, what is needed is for people to boycott any shop that sells fireworks.

A

**January 17 2002, This is Lancashire, Shops must get firework message**

I would love to see fireworks restricted to organised displays only and not available to the general public.

T M B. Stratone Village, Swindon

**January 18 2002, This is Wiltshire, Let's keep fireworks for displays**

Some fireworks are far too loud and go on for too long, thus waking up young babies and children, plus adults, as some selfish people start their explosions at 11pm at night.

J T, Raynes Park,

**January 25 2002, This is Local London, Fireworks should be kept for November 5**

Some shop owners will continue to sell fireworks to anyone who cares to purchase them. Fireworks, in the wrong hands, are weapons. They maim, can kill and they can certainly destroy lives. Unfortunately, most politicians are detached from the real world.

J N, Carrville.

**January 25 2002, This is The North East, Fireworks Control**

After witnessing the irresponsible conduct of so many people in relation to the use of fireworks during the past few months it is now time to call a halt to the public sale of such items.

J B, Edinburgh

**January 29 2002, The Scotsman, Restrict sales**

MPs need to understand that lip-service is not enough. If there is no effective action well before the next election we should make it an election issue.

R C Radcliffe-on-Trent

**March 11 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Home-made bangers are not the issue**

Those terrible explosions we hear, not just on Guy Fawkes' night but month after month, are getting out of hand.

Mrs R. L, Glasgow.

**May 7 2002, ICScotland, Roy's rocket**

We all now face more firework trauma through the summer due to the Queen's jubilee celebrations.

A R Meads, Safewings, South Street, Isham

**May 27 2002, Northant News, Fireworks and airgun misuse have been omitted from the new Animal Welfare Bill.**

I heard fireworks going on June 3 (why?)

G. A. Wollaton Vale

**June 14 2002, This is Nottingham, Why fireworks?**

Once again I have been woken late at night and nearly scared to death by extremely loud bangs, S DS, Leeds 5.

**July 16 2002, This is Leeds, The Firework Menace must be stopped**

Why in July have we had fireworks going off? I have two young children who were very distressed by these fireworks as they were woken up by them.

Mrs N S. Leicester.

**July 25 2002, This is Leicestershire, Why in July**

I own a registered PAT (Pets Are Therapy) dog, Emma. Her life is a misery from September to February due to irresponsible letting off of fireworks.

MRS F C, Illingworth, Halifax.

**July 27 2002, This is Leeds, Firework menace must be tackled**

Public displays and setting fireworks off at a reasonable time are fine but I hear them on a regular basis after 11pm and into the early hours (which is an offence) and it is unacceptable.

Name and address supplied.

**July 29 2002, This is Bristol, Fireworks all year round**

Is May, a beautiful three-months old filly foal, the first victim of fireworks in 2002?

P. A. W. Istock.

**August 10 2002, This is Leicestershire, FIRST FIREWORKS VICTIM OF 2002**

This din of fireworks destroys our sleep pattern and scares our pets half to death as they endeavour to cover indoors behind furniture, every weekend.

DCM, Via e-mail

**August 14 2002, This is Bristol, PLEASE, STOP THE FIREWORK DISPLAYS**

perhaps there may eventually come a time when fireworks are only sold the day before and not the beginning of September.

J L, Moston

**August 16 2002, Manchester Evening News, Write in**

For two nights running, my poor dog was unnerved by selfish people who cannot celebrate some minor event in their lives without letting the whole city know.

L. A. Hove

**August 20 2002, This is Brighton and Hove, Selfishness of firework parties**

The great explosive reverberations frankly frighten me.

M. P. Brighton and Hove,

**August 22 2002, This is Brighton and Hove, Boring bangs**

I wholeheartedly agree with your objection to the annoyingly frequent late-night fireworks we hear round Bristol

SJC, By e-mail.

**August 23 2002, This is Bristol, FREQUENT FIREWORKS**

IT'S 10.15pm and ...For the third night running, we have been treated to the loud explosions of fireworks,

C. W. Salford

**August 27 2002, Salford Advertiser, Firework night is here again**

People in the Cave Grove area of Emersons Green were the irresponsible and selfish in holding an unexpected firework spectacular last Saturday.

A resident of Berkeley Way, Emersons Green.

**September 3 2002, This is Bristol, SAVE FIREWORKS FOR BONFIRE NIGHT**

I, too, have been troubled by fireworks (Postbag). They sound like an atomic bomb going off.

Pensioner Salford

**September 4 2002, Manchester Evening News, Postbag**

I commiserate with "Catherine Wheel" who is made to suffer from the Salford firework virus.  
R. C. Salford

**September 7 2002, Manchester Evening News, Bemused**

YES, the fireworks are here again. Another year has gone by and nothing has been done.  
"Guy Fawkes," Salford

**September 9 2002, Manchester Evening News, Too loud!**

LIKE other readers, I am sick of fireworks.

J. S. Swinton

**September 9 2002, Manchester Evening News, Too loud!**

Have I missed any announcements regarding firework night? Now in the St Dunstons Hill area we have fireworks going off a couple of times a week, every week!

B. L. Cheam

**September 12 2002, This is Local London, Fireworks fury**

Is it too much to ask this government littered with failures to stop the sale of fireworks,  
JT, West Bromwich.

**September 16 2002, Express and Star, Please end this annual misery**

One recent Sunday morning, at 12.15am, I was woken by sounds that were like gun fire.

Is there not a bylaw to protect villagers from such disturbance at such a late hour?

Name supplied, Winchcombe.

**September 17 2002, this is Gloucestershire, FIREWORKS ALREADY**

Guy Fawkes apparently has come early this year, for some reason we have bangers going off all day and in the evening we have a night of bangers and fireworks.

Amble Resident

**September 19 2002, Northumberland Gazette, Early Bangs**

I noticed this morning a newsagent advertising half-price fireworks for sale. Later, I heard loud bangs going off in the area.

J. W. Mapperley

**September 23 2002, This is Nottingham, FIREWORKS RETURN**

... of paramount concern is the early sale of fireworks.

T. R. Bebington

**September 24 2002, icLiverpool, Echo Letters**

I RECENTLY found fireworks being sold in a newsagents for half price, something I find completely irresponsible. This only encourages youngsters to run amok with them.

Mrs N. A. Glasgow.

**September 24 2002, icScotland, VOICE OF SCOTLAND, No bright sparks**

I am delighted to read that someone other than myself, namely Mr Bill Laing, finds these innumerable firework parties very annoying.

MRS A. L. Sutton

**September 25 2002, This is Local London, Fireworks a real scourge**

It is only September and already fireworks are on sale with all the problems that brings us.

G. R. Northfield

**September 27 2002, This is North Scotland, CONTROL FIREWORKS SALES AND STOP MISERY THEY CAUSE**

Fireworks are getting louder every year so it has annoyed me to spot a sign in the local newsagent at Keyworth in the Square for half-price fireworks.

M. W. Address supplied

**September 28 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Change Firework Rules**

I am scared to go out on a night time now with the fireworks going off outside my house.

Name and address supplied.

**September 27 2002, Evening Chronicle, Vent Your Spleen**

I would like to add my voice to the campaign to outlaw the sale of fireworks to the general public.

A. R. Woodthorpe

**October 1 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Time to stop nuisance of late-night fireworks**

I mean fireworks which explode so loudly that, even though they go off some distance from your home and you are indoors, they still terrify your pets and greatly distress some members of your family.

R. L. C. Radcliffe-on-Trent

**October 1 2002, Nottingham Evening Post, Give bangers the rocket**

Here we are at the end of September and already there are fireworks to be heard at all hours.

E. A. R. Woodthorpe

**October 2 2002, This is Nottingham, Ban this nuisance**

We feel, very strongly, that fireworks should be made for organised events only, as they are an absolute menace for weeks before and weeks after November 5,

M & U C. Bilsthorpe

**October 4 2002, This is Nottingham, Ban fireworks, airguns**

I have written to a local retailer who has been selling half-price fireworks five weeks before Guy Fawkes' Day, asking whether their behaviour is responsible and justifiable,

S. B. Keyworth

**October 4 2002, This is Nottingham, A rocket for retailer**

They should only be sold to over 21s and only approximately two weeks before Bonfire Night. They should also be sold by trained retailers - not any old corner shop.

J. S. Aberdeen

**October 5 2002, This is North Scotland, SAVE THIS DOG FROM DEATH THREAT**

I think it's about time the Government made the selling of fireworks illegal.

A. G. Hull.

**October 5 2002, This is Hull, Bang goes Tradition**

Fireworks do seem to contain a lot more explosive-type effects than of yesteryear. Perhaps producers are pandering to the buyers of the product who appear to let them off and terrorise their neighbourhoods

B. C. Cheltenham.

**October 7 2002, this is Gloucestershire, LEGISLATE TO DAMP DOWN BIG BANGS**

Only sell them a week before November 5 and stop sales at midnight on the fifth. No private sales, only organised or licensed events.

J. R. Clifton

**October 7 2002, This is Nottingham, ALL TALK BUT NO ACTION ON ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

One of my dogs is terrified of the noise, and it can go on all day.

A. T. Leeds 8.

**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

This year we seem to be having November 5 just about every day.

S. W. Leeds.

**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

We already are having to put up with it now, four o'clock in the morning they go off  
MRS J. P. Tingley, near Leeds.

**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

My husband and I fully support anything you can do to try to regulate the firework scene.  
A. W. & M. J. Leeds

**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

Every night this week my cat has been terrified by the bangs. We can't keep our animals in for six months of the year.

MRS Y. S. Leeds

**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

stop terrorising the elderly, animals and giving local bored youths ammunition for causing more distress.

MRS J H. Scholes, Leeds

**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

AS A couple in our 60s living in Harehills my husband and I feel as though we are living in a war zone with the noise from fireworks.

MRS M. E. Leeds.

**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

Our dog is a shivering wreck when he hears the bangs, which seem to get louder every year, almost like bombs sometimes. We can't keep him sedated for three whole months.

MR and MRS B. Leeds

**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

Fireworks are not treated with respect however many warnings given in the media, people don't take notice or don't care. In my opinion, fireworks should be banned and displays should be licensed.

L. M. H. Leeds

**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

Not content with the noise and watching them explode, they feel the most lethal need to fire them at each other and passers-by and at houses and animals.

MISS S. E. L. Leeds.

**October 7 2002, Leeds Today, It's like living in a war zone**

I find it hard to believe that the Government allow the selling of dangerous fireworks. And we must not forget the unnecessary work involved for the emergency services dealing with the aftermath.

G. M. Woodside

**October 8 2002, This is North Scotland FIREWORKS CAUSE TOO MUCH TROUBLE**

It is high time fireworks were banned from public sale, and their use restricted to organised displays run by councils or other responsible bodies.

J. T. Gorebridge, Midlothian.

**October 8 2002, icScotland, VOICE OF SCOTLAND Time for ban**

It is impossible to protect a pet from the terror of fireworks if you don't know they are going to be let off.

R. W. Wincanton Somerset

**October 9 2002, This is Gloucestershire, OPEN SEASON ON FIREWORKS**

The various agencies, councillors and MPs will all state that something should be done; and nothing will happen, of course.

J. C. W. Nottingham

**October 10 2002, This is Nottingham, GOOD INTENTIONS AREN'T ENOUGH TO STOP FIREWORKS GOING OFF**

Unfortunately for too long I have heard the bangs and the whizzes, enough is enough,  
N. W. East Leake

**October 10 2002, This is Nottingham, Shops should stop selling to kids**

..the action of one minor local councillor does not make up for the inactivity of the rest and their failure to see that what law there is, be enforced,

R. L. C. Radcliffe-on-Trent

**October 10 2002, This is Nottingham, This technology needs regulation**

IT'S about time shopkeepers were banned from selling fireworks all year round.

G L, Glasgow.

**October 10 2002, icScotland, VOICE OF SCOTLAND Be wise guys**

"Does someone have to die before any action is taken against these criminals?"

R. H. Dudley

**October 11 2002, This is The Black Country, Firework yobs making life a nightmare for us**

The decent, law-abiding citizens of this country do not want fireworks used except for November 5,

F. F. Gedling

**October 11 2002, This is Nottingham, NOT EVERYONE IS CRITICAL OF THIS PLANNING DECISION**

What kind of sick person can do this to a defenceless animal? These are the type of teenagers who go on to assault and murder in the future. .

A, High Peak

**October 11 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

The fact that any one can harm a poor defenceless animal is appalling, but when it's children doing the harming it's sickening.

L, Middleton

**October 11 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

Yes, ban them. The only people who make any profit on these dreadful things are indiscriminate shop-owners, who couldn't care less who they sell them to.

P. E. Chorlton, Manchester

**October 11 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

Fireworks should be banned and only allowed to be viewed each year under the control of trained professionals. Why should people fear for their safety every Oct-Nov?

C, Sale, Manchester

**October 11 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

Perhaps it might help if fireworks are only available from supermarkets and town centre shops and not widely available from newsagents and corner shops.

A. P, Accrington

**October 11 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

What sort of community do we live in when 'children' are able to buy such potentially dangerous objects freely? We wouldn't allow them to walk the streets carrying guns and knives so why fireworks?

H. G, Heywood, Lancashire

**October 11 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

Yes fireworks should be banned and only people who organise displays should be able to sell them.

C. S, Ashton-under-Lyne

**October 11 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

May I suggest there should be a central 'arsenal' where all fireworks are kept and sold for specific purposes. Has something major got to happen before some responsible people take a stand

M. L. Newcastle.

**October 11 2002, Evening Chronicle, Flouting the law on sales**

Fireworks should not be sold before November 1. I'm fed up with kids throwing fireworks, putting them through people's letterboxes and terrorising the elderly and animals.

Name and Address supplied

**October 11 2002, Evening Chronicle, Vent Your Spleen**

...at 11 o'clock at night fireworks exploding woke the whole family - I'm sure the firework folk fully enjoyed their fun but didn't give the rest of us a thought.,

Name and Address supplied

**October 11 2002, Evening Chronicle, Vent Your Spleen**

I am writing on behalf of my two dogs who are terrified by fireworks, they say please, please help us.

Mrs J. B. Horwich, Bolton

**October 14 2002, This is Lancashire, It's torment and agony**

As an animal owner and confirmed "killjoy" I thank God that Australia has a ban on the public sale of Fireworks. All of my animals are safe all year round.

Mrs I, Brisbane, Australia

**October 13 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

Here in Australia, fireworks are only sold to organised displays, and I think that this is much safer.

Fireworks' accidents are few and far between here. That's how it should be.

M. K. Melbourne, Australia

**October 14 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

The type of fireworks now being sold are far too powerful. The politicians and legislators have failed us yet again.

L J H, UK

**October 15 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

It makes you wonder though about who sells fireworks to kids, what sort of shop sells fireworks to kids, probably the same sort of shopkeeper that sells cigs and booze to kids. .

M. Fallowfield

**October 15 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

I feel that they should be banned, only used at organised events, they are a real waste of cash and a nuisance to animal owners all over this country.

S. B, Dorset

**October 15 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

Fireworks today are too big, far too dangerous and too noisy to be on sale to the general public and should definitely be restricted to properly supervised and licensed displays.

Z, South Manchester

**October 15 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

It's 9pm and I have just taken my dog down the lane. Yes, bang, bang! Fireworks are going off already - dog bolting for home.

M. C. Calverton

**October 16 2002, This is Nottingham, CHANGE IN LAW IS OVERDUE**

Our main concern is that fireworks are sold far too early and are being let off in the street at random. This goes on weeks before and after bonfire night - even in the middle of the day.

STUART JONES Public relations officer, Nottingham branch of the National Federation of the Blind



**October 16 2002, This is Nottingham, SPARE A THOUGHT FOR THE PEOPLE YOU SCARE**

If this is what fireworks are used for, to terrorise and cause mayhem, then ban them NOW.

A. and D. G. Queensland Australia

**October 16 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

Where I have lived since February fireworks have been going off and my dog hates them. I don't see why she should have to be upset by them when its bonfire night in November NOT February.

S. Manchester

**October 16 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

...the mindless cretins had been setting these loud fireworks off and rockets sideways where I live for weeks now, making old people stay indoors and leaving their pets petrified.

I. M. Leam Lane, Gateshead

**Evening Chronicle, 16 October 2002, Restrict use of fireworks**

Why don't people ban fireworks once and for all, apart from organised displays. Ban fireworks and do everyone a favour.

Name and Address supplied

**Evening Chronicle, 16 October 2002, Vent Your Spleen**

The misery and anxiety caused to elderly people and animals by morons and the misuse of fireworks every year is, surely, an indication that this ridiculous ritual has now run its course.

M. M. Bradshaw

**October 17 2002, This is Lancashire, Fireworks are just like a bombing raid**

My opinion is that they should not be on sale to the public at all. Let's rid ourselves of this nuisance once and for all. Never has money been so unwisely wasted.

NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED

**October 17 2002, This is Worcestershire, Sale of fireworks should be banned**

Fireworks complaints again the main topic.

J. H. Address supplied

**October 17 2002, Salford Advertiser, Yours briefly**

I would be very happy to see a ban on the sale of fireworks to the morons who set off fireworks here from lunchtime until 2am. It's like Beirut from September onwards.

Fed up of Fireworks, Heaton Park, Manchester

**October 17 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

My dog is at the moment shivering in terror under the stairs. It is only October 19 and this is the fifth night running that she has been terrified by the bangs of fireworks being set off.

P D, Lower Darwen, Lancs

**October 19 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

It is just that some people seem already to be exploding fireworks and we are only at the beginning of October. I am faced with the prospect of "knocking her out" every evening until mid-November.

C. W. Launceston

**October 21 2002, This is Devon, Save Fireworks For The Day**

I think the only time fireworks should be set off should be on the night of November 5 - and no other time.

R. N. Beeston

**October 22 2002, This is Nottingham, End this annual danger**

The only way to prevent such stupidity and thoughtlessness is for the Government to impose a full ban on the sale of these wretched things to the general public and allow organised displays only.

P. H. Kingswood, Bristol.

**October 22 2002, This is Bristol - FIREWORKS SHOULD BE BANNED**

Once again, firework night is upon us - not only on November 5 but also weeks before and after as well. I find this totally unacceptable and feel the Government or local councils should control it.

J. A. Brighton

**October 23 2002, This is Brighton & Hove, Firework month**

... as fireworks seem to get louder every year I feel that they should be banned to the public and only used for properly-organised displays on November 5.

C. W. Clevedon.

**October 23 2002, this is Bristol - WHY DON'T WE BAN THIS FIREWORK NUISANCE**

I for one am in full agreement on the banning of fireworks until the period surrounding November 5.

NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED

**October 23 2002, this is Gloucestershire, JUST AN EXCUSE TO ANNOY FOLK**

What I want to know is how kids manage to get their hands on fireworks months before November 5? Are shops selling fireworks to kids even though they are not supposed to?

J. Manchester

**October 23 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

Once again the mindless yobs are on the loose causing mayhem with fireworks.

Mrs J. B. Bradford

**October 24 2002, This is Bradford, Letters to the Editor**

We have never come across this habit of letting off fireworks willy- nilly until recently. It has begun to happen in the Ilkley area over the past few years,

V. M. B. Ilkley.

**October 24 2002, This is Bradford, Letters to the Editor**

Let's keep November 5 as something special. You can boycott noisy fireworks and still enjoy a lovely display.

H. P. Ilkley.

**October 24 2002, This is Bradford, Letters to the Editor**

After reading that disgraceful story about poor Megan, I too believe that fireworks should be banned from public sale. We need fireworks banned now!

A, Northern Ireland

**October 24 2002, Manchester News, , Death of Megan**

Fireworks should be banned for good apart from people with licenses or public displays.

S. Manchester

**October 24 2002, Manchester online , Stay Safe Campaign**

IN a densely populated area of Aughton, the peace and calm was suddenly shattered last Wednesday evening by a bout of firework explosions.

CONCERNED Aughton (Full name and address supplied)

**October 24 2002, icLiverpool - Letters Your Views Noisy acts so selfish**

Every year people complain, people receive injuries and many people are suffering annoyance and disturbances, not forgetting our dumb animals.

D. R. Gateshead

**October 24 2002, Evening Chronicle, It's time to bury Guy Fawkes**

AT MY recent ward surgery, a number of people pointed out that with the approach of November 5 the letting-off of fireworks on the streets is already causing some problems.

C. C. Cambridge

**October 24 2002, Cambridge News, Tighten up on fireworks**

If selling fireworks to the general public is a problem for many people, why don't those who feel strongly enough simply stop buying anything from such retail outlets for one year?

A. D. H. Bingham

**October 25 2002, This is Nottingham, Boycott firework shops**

Thousands of parents in the Bristol area, my husband and I included, have young children, who are absolutely petrified by the loud noises that come with fireworks.

C. P. by e-mail.

**October 25 2002, this is Bristol - FEEDBACK FIREWORK REGULATIONS**

Yes, fireworks should be banned except for November 5, or a day after. My house pet, a guinea pig, shakes and trembles with fear night after night.

MRS H. R. Gloucester

**October 25 2002, this is Gloucestershire, FIREWORKS FRIGHT KILLED MY PET**

I ABSOLUTELY agree that all sales of fireworks should be banned and that only organised events should take place. Some young people are using fireworks as weapons.

A Worried Mother, Greater Manchester

**October 25 2002, Manchester Online, Firework thugs cause mum to lose baby**

Fireworks should be banned by law and only sold to registered users for controlled displays.

A F. Derbyshire

**October 25 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

For weeks now we have listened to fireworks being set off and watched our animals hide, shaking under the table, is anything being done about the sale of fireworks?

A. H. Newcastle

**October 25 2002, Evening Chronicle, Action needed on fireworks**

It's time to close the fireworks shops and the sale of fireworks to the public.

A. M. D. Witherwood.

**October 26 2002, This is Bristol - SOAPBOX - FIREWORKS**

ON the subject of firework nuisance, we in the Avon Way area of Thornbury have to put up with fireworks from September to January at all times of the day or night.

B. C. Thornbury.

**October 26 2002, This is Bristol - SOAPBOX - FIREWORKS**

The weeks leading up to Bonfire Night produce complaints and protests about fireworks being let off, annoying people, and jobs frightening and torturing animals.

G. S. Bristol.

**October 26 2002, This is Bristol - SOAPBOX - FIREWORKS**

I am even more determined to carry on my crusade to get the misuse of fireworks banned.

A. W. Hengrove, by e-mail.

**October 26 2002, This is Bristol - SOAPBOX - FIREWORKS**

I fully support the RSPCA and feel that the laws need to change.

B, Manchester

**October 28 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

When are the powers that be going to ban the sale of fireworks? They just cause distress to old people and animals, and I have to listen to this unwanted noise from early October to December.

J K, Glasgow

**October 28 2002, Daily Mirror, Fireworks are a blasted menace**

By banning the public sale of fireworks completely the issue goes away. If people want to throw money away they should donate to NHS charities rather than burden the already over-burdened NHS.

R. W. Hazel Grove

**October 30 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

I would like to see some controls brought in on fireworks and I would also like to know what people are doing setting off fireworks at 1.20 in the morning.

A. B. Burley-in-Wharfedale .

**October 31 2002, This is Bradford, Letters to the Editor Loud fireworks**

I would suggest fireworks go on sale only on November 4 and sales stop on November 6, and that a strict law is passed. Also that there is a greater police presence on the streets to catch firework offenders.

L S, Eccles

**October 31 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

With the coming of the firework season, may I make a plea asking people through your newspaper to try and not let very loud fireworks off near neighbours who may be elderly or very ill.

J. M. Merstham

**October 31 2002, icSurrey Online, Fireworks are stressful**

However, it seems most evenings are disturbed with fireworks going off, all year round, night or day. Recently Redhill seems to have a continuous celebration of sorts. Why?

Name and address supplied

**October 31 2002, icSurrey Online, The fireworks are just too much**

The sale of fireworks to the public should be completely banned. It is the mindless idiots who are the 'killjoys' bringing no joy at all, but misery for weeks on end, year in and year out,

L. R. Anfield

**October 31 2002, icLiverpool, Echo Letters 31 October 2002**

Why do we have to put up with this nuisance night after night. Do they not realise that there are new-born babies and young children to be put to bed each night. Also, our dear elderly people.

R. S. Accrington.

**November 1 2002, This is Lancashire, Firework fun can lead to misery**

Banning the sale of what are basically explosives to the general public. If we only pull together and make our voices heard, we can beat this problem once and for all.

J. W. Darwen.

**November 1 2002, This is Lancashire, Ban sale of explosives**

Even though you think you don't damage animals by letting off fireworks you do because it's the noise that scares them so try thinking of other people and animals the next time

S. Manchester

**November 1 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

Otford has been enduring brief, but loud, sporadic firework sessions. Tonight's fireworks at the unwelcome time of 9.30pm lasted 15 minutes, during which time they put my dog into a catatonic state

F. A. Otford

**November 1 2002, Kent & Sussex Courier - TEMPERS ROCKET AT FIREWORK FRENZY**

It appears to be that time of year again, when the sad, rather moronic minority decide to inflict the loathsome sound and noise of fireworks on the surrounding residents of Pembury

J. D. Pembury

**November 1 2002, Courier.co.uk, PITY FOR MORONIC FIREWORK MINORITY**

Each year an increasing number of places become no-go areas for pedestrians and cyclists during Oct/Nov.

Ban firework sales from corner shops. Turning London into Beirut every year is not acceptable.  
C. L. London

**November 1 2002, BBC News, Email of the week, banning fireworks**

How many older readers or pet owners with timid animals are heartily sick of the nightly repeated explosions from banger fireworks that go on incessantly?

F. C. Accrington.

**November 2 2002, This is Lancashire, Bonfire Night a useless ritual**

Why is it that fireworks are being allowed to be used at any time during the year and by anyone. Why am I woken up by fireworks at 03:00 in the morning?

M. J. Oxford

**November 2 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

This won't stop the yobs who put fear into everyone and all animals they come into contact with. Once and for all, ban all but large supervised displays.

M M, Glasgow

**November 3, 2002, Sunday Post, Fireworks**

It seems a little strange that we consider it too dangerous to allow properly vetted and licensed adults to have hand guns yet anyone can walk into a corner shop and buy explosives.

T H, Coventry

**November 3, 2002, BBC News, Banning Fireworks Your Comments**

We should ban fireworks. Last night in Birmingham, trick or treaters where throwing bangers into the drives of houses where they didn't get any treats. A case against both fireworks and trick or treating

P P, Birmingham

**November 3, 2002, BBC News, Banning Fireworks Your Comments**

Limit firework sales to reputable dealers and stop under 21's buying them.

M B, Nottingham

**November 3, 2002, BBC News, Banning Fireworks Your Comments**

Apart from the injuries, the fireworks are getting larger (bigger bang) this is frightening all animals. Only commercial firework displays should be allowed. With no sale to the public.

M G, Worthing

**November 3, 2002, BBC News, Banning Fireworks Your Comments**

Being woken up at two in the morning by some thick-necked lager lout is no fun. Idiots buy loud fireworks simply for their nuisance value. Fireworks now should only be used for public displays

C C, Nottinghamshire

**November 3, 2002, BBC News, Banning Fireworks Your Comments**

It is time that the sale of fireworks to the public was banned.

R M, Medway

**November 3, 2002, BBC News, Banning Fireworks Your Comments**

Why should we put up with innocent children and animals being injured every year for the sake of a few bangs?

A, Swinton

**November 3, 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

I am not a killjoy, but it is time to ban the sale of fireworks and have organised displays only.

J. B. Dringhouses, York.

**November 4 2002, This is York, Ban sale of fireworks**

One obvious move would be to prohibit corner shops from selling banger fireworks completely, or to allow

sales for only a very short period.

A. M. Abbey Wood

**November 4 2002, Local London, Tis the season to be making many noises**

The sooner your campaign gathers our local Councillors and MP's to support the ban , the sooner most of us will be happy, .

H. N. & Family, Cheetham Hill, Manchester

**November 4, 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

I'm sick and tired of it, I'll be glad if they are banned for good. I don't see why I should see my dog upset cos people decide to let them off all year round and up to 11pm at night in the summer.

S. Manchester

**November 4, 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

Is THERE anyone out there who is as fed-up with fireworks as I am?

C. G. Colebrook

**November 5 2002, This is Devon, Pets are suffering**

Virtually the whole country at this time of year is transformed into something approaching a war zone by excessive release of over-powerful fireworks.

K. W. Doncaster

**November 5, 2002, Manchester News, Death of Megan**

Either ban them from public sale, or have them on sale for one day only and enforce regulations regarding the age of the buyer.

E. Chorlton, Manchester

**November 5, 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

Ban them all now! They are just too dangerous now.

N. Manchester

**November 5, 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

Every death or injury by fireworks is 100 per cent avoidable. It is too late for this year, but I hope that by next year there will be no fireworks available to the public, making our streets safe.

R. Nicholl, Glasgow.

**November 5 2002, icScotland - VOICE OF SCOTLAND**

And I am sorry but they do need to be banned.

**S. Manchester**

**November 6, 2002, Manchester online, Stay Safe Campaign**

Fireworks are very dangerous and should only be allowed in the hands of those who know how to handle them.

S. H. Eastwood

**November 6, 2002, Evening Post, FIREWORKS CAUSE MORE SUFFERING FOR PET DOGS**

When are the authorities going to make some kind of decision about the incessant letting-off of fireworks around the end of October/beginning of December?

C. S. Langley Mill Nottingham

**November 6, 2002, Evening Post, FIREWORKS CAUSE MORE SUFFERING FOR PET DOGS**

You have our full backing over the campaign to ban firework sales to the public. Please do all you can to get fireworks banned once and for all.

MR & MRS S. L. Top Valley

**November 6, 2002, Evening Post, FIREWORKS CAUSE MORE SUFFERING FOR PET DOGS**

May I say how saddened I am and I feel that most of your readers are the same, at the way Guy Fawkes

Night has got completely out of hand.

T. W. Gateshead

**November 6 2002, Evening Chronicle, It's too loud and too long**

Is not time the Government made legislation to prevent rogue shopkeepers and stores selling fireworks before November 3.

P. C. Plymouth

**November 7 2002, This is Devon, Ploy To Counter Firework Yobs**

WHEN will this Government be proactive and ban the legal, over-the-counter sale of gunpowder?

Age restriction at the point of sale is a joke.

R O' G. Ford

**November 7 2002, This is Devon, Ploy To Counter Firework Yobs**

If the fireworks were restricted to certain times, at least I would have a hope of sedating my two dogs in anticipation, but the way it is now I have no hope!

MRS P. A. M. Longlevens

**November 7 2002, this is Gloucestershire, IT'S JUST LIKE LIVING IN A WAR ZONE**

Isn't it time some fireworks were banned for noise pollution?

M. T. Malvern.

**November 8 2002, This is Worcestershire, We're not deaf!**

I would restrict fireworks to the professional at regulated displays. I would also like to see tough laws introduced to heavily fine or even jail, anyone selling illegal fireworks.

R. B. Livingstone

**November 8, 2002, Daily Mirror, Bang out of order**

We've had noisy fireworks, bangers and the like and keeping animals safe and reassured has been a nightmare. Who is buying these fireworks and bangers and, more importantly, who is selling them.

Name and Address supplied

**November 8 2002, Evening Chronicle, Vent Your Spleen**

I would not have been able to fully sympathise with the desire to ban fireworks. Once you are living in what feels like a war zone for a three weeks every year, one's point of view changes somewhat.

N. D. The Meadows

**November 9 2002, This is Nottingham, FIREWORKS NIGHT AFTER NIGHT ARE NOISE POLLUTION**

Why can it not be stopped, retail sales to all and sundry banned. I really am no killjoy, but surely controlled public displays are wonderful and safe and should be only on November 5.

R. T. Nottingham

**November 9 2002, This is Nottingham, FIREWORKS NIGHT AFTER NIGHT ARE NOISE POLLUTION**

I have sat in my sitting room like so many other people, hearing bang after bang after bang for the last week. My poor 12-year-old cat was very afraid hiding near the fridge in the kitchen.

A. E. H. Newark

**November 9 2002, This is Nottingham, FIREWORKS NIGHT AFTER NIGHT ARE NOISE POLLUTION**

But like a lot of things that nowadays go under the name of progress, it has become a victim of excess that has been allowed to go on unrestrained.

K. H. Basford

**November 9 2002, This is Nottingham, FIREWORKS NIGHT AFTER NIGHT ARE NOISE POLLUTION**

It's time this antiquated festival was banned, after all Guy Fawkes failed to blow up Parliament - if he had succeeded I might have thought differently!

E. H. South Bank, York.

**November 9 2002, This is York, Shouldn't be aloud**

Ban the sale of fireworks to the public.

P. W. Rawcliffe, York.

**November 9 2002, This is York, Shouldn't be aloud**

I wish they were banned until the night. So leave the fireworks till the fifth and stop terrorising our pets.

A very angry S. O. (aged 15), Craigie, Ayr

**November 8, 2002, Ayrshire Post, Fireworks for the Fifth only**

A ban must be imposed on fireworks other than at supervised displays.

Mrs M. B. Newtownards

**November 10 2002, Sunday Post, Fireworks**

Having just survived a supervised fireworks display which terrified animals and small children, my advice to First Minister is ban all fireworks and let us have peace in our houses.

A. M., Ayr

**November 10 2002, Sunday Post, Fireworks**

Surprised to read bangers were now banned along with air bombs, because the fireworks round our way are noisier than ever. They must pose a risk to those with a weak heart.

T. M. Grimsby

**November 10 2002, Sunday Post, Fireworks**

PLEASE, please, all newsagents, November 5 has gone, will you now stop selling fireworks? I think we've all had enough. It's worse than living through the Second World War.

Name and Address supplied

**November 11 2002, icNewcastle - Vent your spleen**

We've just gone through the hell of Bonfire Night again. What kind of stupid country are we living in?

Bonfire Night is mainly hijacked by yobs throwing fireworks and creating mayhem,

Name and Address supplied

**November 11 2002, icNewcastle - Vent your spleen**

An old frail neighbour had five hours of hell before she called the police. Her dogs were so stressed out they were fighting with each other.

A very stressed and angry OAP.

**November 11 2002, icScotland - VOICE OF SCOTLAND**

Since mid-September, we have had bangers fly past our windows night after night by under 10-year-olds.

Most of our animals are on tranquillisers and some young babies haven't slept properly for weeks.

E. M. Kirkcaldy.

**November 11 2002, icScotland - VOICE OF SCOTLAND**

This is just a moneymaking gimmick for businesses as most children these days don't even know who he is or what he did. Please let's have a little thought and consideration for others.

MISS D. W. Stroud

**November 11 2002, this is Gloucestershire, FIREWORKS NIGHT SHOULD ONLY BE ONCE EVERY YEAR**

Why should firework manufacturers and retailers worry about the anxiety and fright it causes many elderly people and our pets. It's big bucks for them. Profit before people and pets.

S. R. Gloucester

**November 11 2002, This is Gloucestershire, PROFIT BEFORE PEOPLE AND PETS**



Why must we put up with explosions that rock our homes?

NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED

**November 11 2002, this is Gloucestershire, MAYBE WE HAVE MONEY TO BURN**

So, come on you manufacturers, have a little sympathy for those of us who live in built-up areas with pets and babies who like to sleep at night during October and November.

NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED

**November 11 2002, this is Gloucestershire, WE'RE NOT GUY FAWKES MISERIES**

I would prefer that they were banned completely.

J. Y. Bedlington.

**November 11 2002, Evening Chronicle, Support for firework ban**

That money spent on displays would be better given to charity.

D. C. Lower Hacheston

**November 11 2002, East Anglian Daily Times - Cash to burn - Give it to charity**

I'm sure many people now feel so strongly about the issue of fireworks that this will be a major factor when deciding where to cast our votes at the next General Election.

A. S. Calverton

**November 12 2002, This is Nottingham, UP IN SMOKE... WHAT A PATHETIC WASTE OF MONEY**

Well thank goodness the fireworks saga is at an end. I am in my eighties and am sure Guy Fawkes Night was not so terrifying in the past as it is today. I do agree with banning them.

V. F. Sneinton

**November 12 2002, This is Nottingham, ROCKET ATTACK TERROR**

I believe that it should be made illegal for the general public to purchase fireworks.

E. B. Withernsea, East Yorkshire

**November 12 2002, Northants News - Letters, Spectacle spoiled by 2am fireworks**

Get your earplugs ready' Be prepared for the next two months without any peace and quiet. Yes, that's right, the fireworks are on their way I say, ban them from public sale.

Mr T. D. Weaste

**November 12 2002, Salford Advertiser, Yours briefly**

I WOULD like to add my support and backing for the increasing demand for a total ban on the sale of fireworks to the public unless under strict licence for organised public displays.

John Maxwell, Hartlepool.

**November 12 2002, icScotland - VOICE OF SCOTLAND, Ban them**

Why isn't it banned? And why aren't fireworks only sold to people who are wanting to organise displays?

Name and Address supplied

**November 12 2002, Evening Chronicle, Vent Your Spleen**

Given the increased explosive power and availability of modern fireworks and their more or less constant use, the only alternative is surely a total ban on private sales.

NANTWICH RESIDENT (name and address supplied)

**November 13 2002, icCheshireOnline - South Cheshire Chronicle letters**

HOW can the Scottish Executive propose controlling the selling of fireworks through licensing when the local neds already obtain their arsenal from LICENSED grocers, together with cut-price Buckfast?

J. Martin, Cowdenbeath.

**November 13 2002, icScotland - VOICE OF SCOTLAND, Neds who have money to burn**

Fireworks are fun, I wouldn't ban them, but can we have more control over the noise levels and the dates they can be used?

J. A. South Woodford

**November 13 2002, Local London, It's firework night every night**

November 5 only for fireworks please.

(Mrs) Y. R. Eggbuckland

**November 13 2002, This is Devon, Bangers infuriate**

I TOO am fed up with fireworks. Like Mrs Gow in Tuesday's Evening Herald, I am not a killjoy.

If they are to be used at weddings and private parties surely this can still be done minus the bangers?

M. E. Colebrook

**November 13 2002, This is Devon, Bangers infuriate**

ANOTHER night of terror over, old people frightened in their homes, animals scared, babies and sick people unable to sleep. Loud bangers must be banned.

B. R. Ernesettle

**November 13 2002, This is Devon, Bangers infuriate**

Fireworks in September and October and after November should not be for sale. Some fireworks are over 140 decibels which is against the law and should be banned.

E. C. Weston Mill

**November 13 2002, This is Devon, Bangers infuriate**

I write to show my support for banning fireworks. A total ban on public sales is the only way to go, sooner than later, perhaps a national petition would get the "powers that be" into action,

G. F. Bearsden

**November 13, 2002, Daily Mirror, Fired up for action**

With reference to Linda Gilroy's attempts to get a Bill through Parliament to control the sale and use of fireworks, hopefully, this time we can look forward to the much-needed legislation being brought in.

J. D. Crownhill

**November 14 2002, This is Devon, Firework Noise Is All Year Round**

Ban the sale of fireworks to individuals. Sell them only to licensed organisations putting on approved displays. That is the answer.

R. L. Plymouth

**November 14 2002, This is Devon, Firework Noise Is All Year Round**

The manufacturers' greed has provided their availability all year round.

L. M. Plymouth

**November 14 2002, This is Devon, Firework Noise Is All Year Round**

Every night since Hallowe'en, the sound of fireworks has filled the air, terrorising the elderly, young children and animals.

G. T. Exeter

**November 14 2002, This is Devon, Fireworks Caused Mavis To Be Killed By a Car**

I don't understand how a "ban on shop goods" should prevent the sale of display packs to legitimate organisations.

V. S. Lower Tuffley

**November 14 2002, this is Gloucestershire, NOISE VICTIMS TRULY DISTRAUGHT**

So, please, you habitual "bangers", put your toys away and have a little forethought for people's pets and especially small babies.

NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED

**November 14 2002, this is Gloucestershire, TIME FOR LAW TO STOP FANATICS WITH**

## **FIREWORKS**

On Thursday evening (Oct 31) I was kept awake until 1am with 'banger' type fireworks and on Friday/Saturday morning it went on until 3.15am.

S. S. Darwen.

**November 14 2002, This is Lancashire, Fireworks are making life a misery**

WHAT sad lives some people in Harwood must have when they take pleasure from terrorising the elderly, small children, the sick and animals. Yes, I'm talking about the firework addicts!

(Name and address supplied)

**November 14 2002, This is Lancashire, How firework addicts make life a misery**

I HAVE written to the Home Secretary, Mr David Blunkett, at Queen Anne's Gate, London, SW1H 9AT regarding the firework menace that we are all having to endure.

A. H. Blackburn

**November 14 2002, This is Lancashire, Menace must be stopped**

Over the past 20 years, Queens Road has turned from a relatively quiet area to one resembling a front-line war zone at times. The days of wizz-bangs have given way to endless nights of high explosive.

F. I. Ilkley

**November 14 2002, This is Bradford, Letters to the Editor Firework misery**

Would it be possible to restrict firework to one or possibly two nights next year, rather than subject the elderly, nervous and animal population to almost a months bombardment?

J. Y. K. Alnwick

**November 14 2002, Northumberland Gazette, The Bangs Go On**

Some nights the bangs have gone on from 5pm until midnight. Saturday night the noise carried on until 2am. Not only does the noise upset animals, but also babies and the elderly.

C. W. Theydon Bois

**November 14 2002, Local London, Firework night not week**

Unfortunately the issue of indiscriminate firework use is a national problem. They are readily available for sale all year round and as such we can expect 'bangs' at anytime. Is this socially acceptable?

Dr J. G. H. Trowbridge.

**November 15 2002, This is Wiltshire, Noisy fireworks could spark off public protest**

Is it beyond the realms of possibility that such celebrations could be severely curtailed by the stricter enforcement of the various by-laws governing such occurrences.

J. McC. Malvern.

**November 15 2002, This is Worcestershire, Every night is bonfire night!**

The indiscriminate use of loud exploding fireworks by inexperienced people who give no regard to the rights of others is totally unacceptable.

T. B. Malvern.

**November 15 2002, This is Worcestershire, Time for legislation**

It's days since Bonfire Night and still we're having to listen to fireworks. Some of them have been so loud our windows have shaken with the force. My poor dog is afraid to go out because of them.

E. Ebbw Vale, Gwent

**November 14 2002, Daily Mirror, Readers Letters**

I am absolutely disgusted. Does anyone care about the suffering of animals during the weeks around November 5?

V L Wall Heath.

**November 14 2002, Express & Star, Just keep it to the fifth.**

IT is six weeks now since I moved to the South Reading area and I had no idea that I was moving to a war zone. Every evening the sky is rent asunder with explosions that disturb everyone's lives.

M. C. G. Reading

**November 14 2002, icBerkshire - Making a noise about big bangs**

Shopkeepers have proved themselves unable or unwilling to abide by present firework legislation - so why not deny them these sales altogether?

S. V. Nottingham

**November 15 2002, This is Nottingham, UNNECESSARY BAN WOULD SPOIL FIREWORKS PLEASURE**

I hope that it will become illegal for the public to purchase fireworks and that organised displays will be the only ones licensed to handle them in future.

V. W. Whitchurch.

**November 15 2002, This is Bristol - FIREWORK DISPLAYS MUST BE ORGANISED**

Now, for one night a year this would be bad enough, but so far this has been two weeks. A couple of hours for one night would be bad enough - this begins around 4pm and continues until midnight or beyond.

L. L. Address supplied.

**November 15 2002, Manchester Newspaper, Police unconcerned at my despair**

If there is a petition to completely ban fireworks, except for use by licensed authorities, I am very keen to sign it.

G. E. Skipton.

**November 15 2002, This is Bradford, Readers Letters**

I DON'T want to sound a killjoy, but am I the only one in our neighbourhood who thinks that by this time we have had more than sufficient fireworks let off?

A. B. Southport

**November 15 2002, icLiverpool - Your View**

One has to ask whether we are still in a timewarp of believing senseless explosions every night could celebrate Guy Fawkes regardless of the noise pollution and the terrifying effects on animals.

T. B. Full address supplied.

**November 15 2002, icLiverpool - Your View**

The Cats' Protection League, the Canine Defence League and many others would, I know, stand with us. We are the only voice animals have. It is about time the Government took notice.

P. M. Thornton Heath

**November 15 2002, icCroydon - Sign up for firework ban**

I am of the opinion (and please believe me, I am not a killjoy) that the banning of the retail sale of fireworks all year round is the only solution to this problem.

CLLR CHRIS BLAKELEY Chairman, Housing and Community Safety Select Committee, Wirral Council

**November 15 2002, icCheshireOnline - Chester Chronicle letters**

For the last two weeks from 6pm until late, our skies have been lit up, and blasted to the heavens. Each year it gets louder and longer. Do other readers suffer with their pets the same? It's dreadful.

P. W. Headington, Oxford

**November 16 2002, This is Oxfordshire, Show some consideration**

I was particularly pleased that the motion includes a request to make fireworks quieter.

M. B. Fulford, York

**November 18 2002, This is York, Andrew's bang on**

Perhaps now the government will stop their sale. Only organised parties should get them and direct from the manufactures. Let's have some peace .

D. C. Aintree

**November 18 2002, icLiverpool - Your Letters 18th November 2002**

Over the years, fireworks have become bigger and louder. Some can shake the whole town so it feels at times as if we are under siege. Perhaps we need to look to greater control and restriction.

P. W. Cheltenham.

**November 19 2002, This is Gloucestershire, Fireworks are anti-social**

Here in Blyth they have been going off since late September, and you can purchase fireworks up until the festive season.

Mrs B. T. Blyth

**November 19 2002, Evening Chronicle, Fighting for a quiet life**

It is impossible to know how loud a firework is without lighting it first, obviously unfeasible in a newsagent's shop.

D. E. Hove

**November 20 2002, This is Brighton & Hove, Traditional party is not total disregard**

We know that home displays are expensive and dangerous and I believe that anyone planning a home display should be required to apply for a licence to do so.

K. L. Crewe

**November 20 2002, icCheshireOnline - South Cheshire Chronicle letters**

IF anything has been proved this year, it is that fireworks need to be banned.

FED-UP WITH FIREWORKS (name and address supplied)

**November 20 2002, icCheshireOnline - South Cheshire Chronicle letters**

BONFIRE Night is now past but still fireworks, with all their whizzes and bangs, have to be endured in the evenings and also during the day.

J. E. C. Nantwich

**November 20 2002, icCheshireOnline - South Cheshire Chronicle letters**

Perhaps our Government could legislate to end this two-week event, although I doubt it. It probably fears a plot.

D. G. Walthamstow.

**November 21 2002, Local London, One night only for fireworks**

I am writing this letter in the early hours of Sunday, November 17, in what I can only describe as a war zone. This has now been constant for about six weeks.

RESIDENT, Hampton Road, Chingford

**November 21 2002, Local London, The worst year for fireworks so far**

I had to listen to several very loud fireworks for five nights in a row.

W. S. Hatherley

**November 21 2002, this is Gloucestershire, WHAT A NOISE**

Gone are the penny bangers that could burn your fingers, the fireworks of today could take your arm off.

A. H. Newcastle upon Tyne

**November 20 2002, Evening Chronicle, Join Firework**

I have lived in South Reading for a number of years and this last two years it has been very bad with fireworks going off at 3am any night to 6.50am on a Sunday morning since mid-September.

NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED

**November 21 2002, icBerkshire - Display of firework anger**

I am writing long after Guy Fawkes' Night amid much noise - all to the distress of our two cats.

This has been going on for nearly two weeks. I wish people would call it a day by November 7.

A. B. Cheltenham.

**November 22 2002, this is Gloucestershire STOP THIS RACKET**

The burden of responsibility now rests squarely with the fireworks industry and the shops selling them. At least it's a start.

E. H. Up Hatherley.

**November 22 2002, this is Gloucestershire, MEASURES REGULATE FIREWORKS**

I would suggest some legislation to ensure, no sales before the actual day, sales only to people who can prove that they are official organisers of bonfires,

R. A. G. Chester

**November 22 2002, icCheshireOnline - Chester Chronicle letters**

They are a regular occurrence in Upton, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. They explode like bombs shaking the windows, terrifying the elderly, pets and the wildlife.

B. S. Upton Heath, Chester

**November 22 2002, icCheshireOnline - Chester Chronicle letters**

Scientists have maintained, for years, that 'there is no such thing as a perfect vacuum.', I can now inform the Royal Society that such a state can indeed be found in Chester: in the space between Ms Taylor's ears.

P. B. Pulford

**November 22 2002, icCheshireOnline - Chester Chronicle letters**

So City of York Council should be one of the last councils in the country to think of putting on a firework display. I am glad the money is spent on Christmas lights rather than being burned.

M. B. Fulford, York

**November 23 2002, This is York, Don't burn money**

If you have an animal that isn't frightened then lucky you, you should be in the company of one that is, then you might understand why there should be some sort of regulation on these noising and frightening things.

J. P. St Osyth.

**November 26 2002, East Anglian Daily Times - Animals go through firework torment**

Fireworks. Why does firework night last for three weeks minimum?

NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED

**November 29 2002, This is Wiltshire, Call for restrictions**

These disturbances are becoming more and more common as fireworks, which were once restricted to around Guy Fawkes Night, are being sold and used throughout the year.

R. W. G. Ilkley

**November 29 2002, This is Bradford, Letters to the Editor, Protest at maelstrom of detonations**

What sort of monstrous egotist, that their birthday, their wedding, their party, their anything is more important than the sleep of thousands of their neighbours?

O. R. W. Ilkley.

**November 29 2002, This is Bradford, Letters to the Editor, Monstrous egotist**

I suggest letting off fireworks over a certain size should carry the same penalty as using unlicensed explosives.

F. I. Ilkley.

**November 29 2002, This is Bradford, Letters to the Editor, Origin of the noise**

I have two cats and I am scared of them being injured by the nasty fireworks.

A. P. (age 8)

**November 29 2002, This is Bradford, Letters to the Editor,**

A few jobs may be enjoying themselves but many suffer including animals by the dangerous mis-use of

fireworks around our streets at all times.

J. C. Ipswich.

**December 2 2002, East Anglian Daily Times - Fireworks being used dangerously by jobs**

It is my personal opinion that the use of fireworks by members of the public should be banned and only safe, organised firework displays should be allowed.

CLLR MAURICE JONES Crewe and Nantwich Borough Council

**December 4 2002, icCheshireOnline - South Cheshire Chronicle letters**

I would suggest that if a byelaw is to be successful, and hopefully satisfy both camps, the byelaw should state that all displays after 8 pm be of the silent type.

J. C. B. Ilkley.

**December 5 2002, This is Bradford, Letters to the Editor, Silent fireworks**

A friend from Liverpool told me the fireworks have been going on for weeks before and after bonfire night and his dog is now in a high anxiety state.

J. H. Ipswich

**December 5 2002, East Anglian Daily Times - Fireworks go on and on**

Thousands of people all over the country, MPs of all parties and members of none, are all complaining about the excessive noise and the great frequency of fireworks.

Trevor F. Hinxman, The Windermere Campaign for Firework Controls.

**December 19 2002, This is The Lake District, Fireworks issue proves explosive**

Please go to the RSPCA website at [www.rspca.org.uk](http://www.rspca.org.uk) and click on "Campaigns". There you will find a petition calling for a reform of firework regulations.

S. B. Kidderminster

**December 19 2002, This is Worcestershire, Petition for fireworks reform**

Since the last week of September to quite recently, we have had to listen to these explosions at all times of the day.

C. C. New Addington

**December 18 2002, This is Local London, Take firework action**

If these people who do this have such a vast amount of money to burn why not put a very heavy extra tax on fireworks, say 10 per cent?

C. R. H. A. Bungay

**December 17 2002, East Anglian Daily Times - Slap tax on fireworks**

Please support our campaign. We don't want to ruin people's fun, but we don't want people's lives ruined either.

Geraldine Peacock Chief Executive, The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association

**December 30 2002, This is Lancashire, Don't forget pets as fireworks are set off**