



Halloween/Bonfire Night Special Bulletin

Welcome

October is a busy month for Safer Neath Port Talbot and partner agencies. We would normally hold an event this time of year at Aberavon Beach and other areas to promote the safety messages regarding staying safe during Halloween and Bonfire Night. Although we are unable to carry out events at the moment due to the current circumstances we are still working hard behind the scenes . This special edition newsletter has been put together to promote safety messages for our Paws on Patrol members to provide them with important information to keep you and your communities safe during these times.



Picture taken at Aberavon Beach event October 2019 (Pre Covid-19)





A message from South Wales Police

With Halloween just around the corner, South Wales Police is encouraging everyone to think a little differently this year and find ways to celebrate while continuing to adhere to Coronavirus

legislation to protect themselves and loved ones.

Welsh Government Legislation currently restricts residents of South Wales from travelling outside their county boroughs, and from meeting indoors with anyone outside of their households. Welsh Government has also “strongly advised against” traditional trick or treating in order to curb the spread of the virus.

South Wales Police have developed some activity packs to keep youngsters busy and safe at home, and other suggestions include pumpkin-carving, hosting a virtual Halloween party, or having a spooky-themed treasure hunt in the home.

Information on this can be downloaded from

<http://bit.ly/OpBang2020>



Picture provided by NPT Resident.

The annual **#OpBang** campaign seeks to remind the public that Halloween is **Not Fun For Everyone**, and with the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic concern and anxiety is understandably heightened for some.

Police Officers will continue to be visible in our communities to help detect and prevent antisocial behaviour and to remind everyone of their obligations under the current legislation.

South Wales Police are encouraging parents to know where their children are and ensure they're abiding by the law, to help ensure everyone can have a safe and enjoyable Halloween.



COFIWCH NID YW YN HWYL I BAWB!

REMEMBER IT'S NOT FUN
FOR EVERYONE!

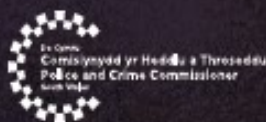


Gwell diogel nag edifar.

Mae camddefnyddio tân
gwyllt yn beryglus ac yn
anghyfreithlon.

Be safe not sorry.

The misuse of fireworks
is dangerous and illegal.



SchoolBeat.cymru

CadwDeCymruYnDdiogel

KeepingSouthWalesSafe

Sganiwch y cod QR i gael y
wybodaeth ddiweddaraf am
COVID-19 neu ewch i:
bit.ly/HDCCovid19



Scan the QR code for the
latest Covid-19 information
or visit:
bit.ly/SWPCovid19



Fireworks aren't for everyone

Hosting a firework display?

✓ Keep pets safely indoors away from noise.



Although the Bonfire Night celebrations will be a bit different this year, the law remains the same!

18+ It is illegal to sell **fireworks** or sparklers to a person **under** the **age** of **18** years.

16+ It is illegal to sell party poppers, serpents and novelty matches to any person **under** the **age** of 16 years.

Trading Standards carry out regular checks to ensure traders do not sell age restricted products to underage persons.

Shopkeepers who breach the requirements can be prosecuted and if found guilty can be fined and/ or, face a term of imprisonment.

If you have any information about traders who are supplying age restricted products to underage persons you may report it through our partner organization, the **Citizens Advice Consumer Service**.

Their telephone number is **0808 223 1133**.

Remember, stay safe, and only purchase fireworks which display a valid CE Mark from an authorised firework reseller!

A message from the RSPCA



With Halloween, Bonfire Night and New Year celebrations fast approaching, the 2020 fireworks season looks to be as challenging as ever for our pets. Due to the developing situation with Coronavirus, we are likely to be faced with fewer organised events, but witness a surge in private firework display.

For animals and their owners, such private displays are a great source of concern - with less, or no, notice available and them often taking place in close proximity to residential areas which can house large numbers of family pets.

As thousands of people carry out their annual celebrations, RSPCA Cymru and the Paws on Patrol have joined forces to help ensure that dogs across the Neath Port Talbot area remain as safe, calm and relaxed as possible.

Worryingly, it's estimated that 45 percent of dogs in the UK show signs of fear when they hear fireworks. The loud and unpredictable bangs, flashes and hissing can frighten dogs of all shapes, sizes and ages, with many seeking a place to hide.

What steps, then, can we take to help keep our four-legged friends calm during this year's fireworks season?:

- ♦ Walk dogs during daylight hours to avoid times when fireworks are likely to be set off
- ♦ Close windows and curtains to muffle the sound of fireworks and the bright flashes.
- ♦ Put on some music or the TV on to help mask the firework sounds
- ♦ Create a quiet space where your dog can feel safe and in control
- ♦ Create somewhere for your dog to hide that they can access at all times.

RSPCA Cymru also asks that Paws on Patrol members provide assistance during this busy period for the Council, Emergency Services and the RSPCA, by reporting any incidents of compromised welfare as a result of fireworks.

If you have concerns about the welfare of an animal, please call the RSPCA's emergency line on **0300 1234 999** to report the incident.

To keep up to date with the work of the RSPCA in Wales, please follow us on:

Twitter: @RSPCAcymru

Facebook: RSPCA Cymru

Instagram: official_rspca

Arson Reduction Team



Arson Reduction is a problem-solving team within Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service dedicated to reducing and eliminating deliberate fire-setting. The team consists of a seconded Police Officer, a Fire Officer and three specialist arson advisors who ensure that all incidents are investigated and analysed to make our communities safer. The team works closely with its partners to target problematic areas and to consistently develop ways of reducing arson and to identify who or what may be affected.



In the run up to Bonfire Night the Arson Reduction team in conjunction with Waste Enforcement and SWP are carrying out weekly patrols in hot spot bonfire areas across Neath Port Talbot.

We expect Bonfire night to be very different this year and we are appealing for the public not to have a bonfire and instead look at alternative ways to enjoy. We are aware the recycling centres are currently closed and are also urging everyone not to use this as an opportunity to burn any household waste. Smoke that is produced by these fires is highly toxic and can be dangerous for people suffering from respiratory illnesses.

The Fire Service and South Wales Police will be patrolling during this time and will be available to give advice on waste management, firework safety and lockdown guidelines. Further information is available from
arson.reduction@mawwfire.gov.uk

KEEP SAFE THIS BONFIRE NIGHT

Festivities will be a little different this year and we are encouraging everyone to look at other ways to enjoy. We highly recommend not to build private bonfires and to stay safe by using the Fireworks Code.

DO'S

If you do decide to have a bonfire then **POSITION THE BONFIRE** well away from houses, garages, sheds, fences, overhead cables, trees and shrubs, 15m is usually a safe distance.

Make sure the **BONFIRE IS STABLE** and will not collapse.

Ensure everyone is a **SAFE DISTANCE AWAY** (15m) from the fire and children are supervised at all times.

Keep **BUCKETS OF WATER**, a garden hose or a fire extinguisher nearby in case of an emergency.

POUR WATER on the remains of the bonfire before leaving.

KEEP PETS INDOORS during bonfire night.

BE RESPECTFUL of your neighbours.

DON'T'S

DO NOT burn the following: Tyres, Cylinders, Canisters, Aerosols Paints, Plastics, Rubber & Foam filled furniture.

NEVER use flammable liquids to light a bonfire.

NEVER light or store fireworks near a bonfire.

NEVER leave a bonfire unattended.

DON'T gather with people you do not live with either indoors or outdoors, unless permitted.

DON'T forget, fireworks can be dangerous.

DON'T set off fireworks in a park or other public open space.

DON'T forget the lockdown means that everyone in Wales **MUST STAY AT HOME**.

For information on Coronavirus restrictions go to: gov.wales/coronavirus



Respect
Your Community



Protect
The NHS



Enjoy
Safely

**DIAL
999**
IN THE EVENT OF
AN EMERGENCY



Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub
Canolbarth a Gorllewin Cymru
Mid and West Wales
Fire and Rescue Service



www.mawwfire.gov.uk

NPT Dog Warden

Please make sure your dog has a collar with a tag including up to date contact details as well as being microchipped. With the dark nights approaching and people celebrating events like Halloween and Bonfire Night it is more likely that your pet could become spooked and run off whilst out on a walk or could escape from your garden.



Members of the public who find a dog straying should contact NPT Dog Warden Service on 01639 686868, normal and out of hours. You can also report online at <https://www.npt.gov.uk/1155>.

The NPT dog warden can also be contacted via email - dogwardens@npt.gov.uk

When the dog warden is called to a stray dog, the dog is always scanned and every effort is made to reunite it with the owner.

If this is not possible, the dog is taken to Glasfryn kennels, Water Street, Margam, SA13 2PN. Your pet can only be collected during opening hours which are between 11am and 4pm.

Due to covid restrictions, it would be best to contact the kennels prior to attending on 01656 740588.

Stay home to save lives

Coronavirus levels are rising
quickly everywhere in Wales

Until 9 November:



Only go out for food, education, care, health
or work, if you can't work from home



You must not meet people you do not
live with, either indoors or outdoors



When you go out, keep your distance,
wash your hands regularly and
wear a face mask where required

If we do this now, and together,
we will save lives

Check the rules online
gov.wales/coronavirus



Thank you to all our paws members for your support and please stay safe.