# Man seriously injured by firework on Headington A40 sparks renewed safety warnings



The incident on May 11, where a man suffered serious injuries after a firework exploded in his hand on the A40 in Headington, has raised significant concern in the community. Initially, details were unclear, but local police have confirmed that the individual was responsible for igniting the firework himself. At around 8:51 am, the firework ignited and exploded while the man was holding it, leading to his hospitalisation. A police spokesperson stated, “We know there was some concern in the community, but no criminality has been identified, and the incident has been resolved.”

The police further elaborated that the event stemmed from a "mistake," though no additional context was provided regarding the man's reasoning for engaging with the firework. Such incidents underline the importance of adhering to safety regulations surrounding fireworks, which are not just designed to prevent injury but also legal implications.

The British Fireworks Association emphasises that using fireworks in public spaces, including streets and parks, is illegal. They advise that fireworks should remain in a closed box until use, lit from a safe distance, and never pointed at people or animals. The legal framework surrounding fireworks in the UK stipulates that individuals under 18 are prohibited from purchasing adult fireworks, while also enforcing usage curfews between 11 pm and 7 am for most occasions, with exceptions during designated times such as New Year's Eve and Bonfire Night.

Moreover, the regulations regarding the purchase and possession of fireworks are enforced diligently, with several organisations, including local police forces, monitoring compliance. Failure to adhere to these laws can result in penalties that serve as a deterrent against misuse. As highlighted by the Metropolitan Police and the House of Commons Library, enforcing these regulations not only protects individuals but also supports community safety.

In light of this incident, safety experts reiterate the need for public awareness about the legal use of fireworks. Engaging in responsible behaviours not only minimises the risk of harm but also contributes to a culture of safety. As the upcoming fireworks seasons approach, individuals are urged to familiarise themselves with safety guidelines and to consider attending public displays conducted by professionals, which can offer a safer alternative to personal use.

For more comprehensive information on firework safety regulations, individuals can access resources provided by both the British Fireworks Association and government safety guidelines. Their recommendations can provide critical insight into safe practices during the festive seasons, helping to prevent future incidents like the one in Headington.

## Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/25187280.oxford-man-lit-firework-hand-busy-a40/?ref=rss)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/25187280.oxford-man-lit-firework-hand-busy-a40/?ref=rss), [[5]](https://www.britishfireworksassociation.co.uk/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[2]](https://www.gov.uk/fireworks-the-law), [[3]](https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/constituency-casework-fireworks-purchase-possession-and-use/), [[4]](https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/asb/asb/antisocial-behaviour/fireworks)
* Paragraph 4 – [[5]](https://www.britishfireworksassociation.co.uk/), [[6]](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/stay-safe-this-fireworks-season)
* Paragraph 5 – [[3]](https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/constituency-casework-fireworks-purchase-possession-and-use/), [[4]](https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/asb/asb/antisocial-behaviour/fireworks)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/25187280.oxford-man-lit-firework-hand-busy-a40/?ref=rss> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.gov.uk/fireworks-the-law> - This official UK government page outlines the legal regulations surrounding fireworks, including age restrictions, permitted sale periods, and usage curfews. It specifies that individuals under 18 cannot purchase adult fireworks, and that setting off fireworks between 11pm and 7am is generally prohibited, with exceptions for certain occasions. The page also provides information on penalties for illegal use and offers guidance on firework safety.
3. <https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/constituency-casework-fireworks-purchase-possession-and-use/> - This briefing from the House of Commons Library provides detailed information on the purchase, possession, and use of fireworks in the UK. It discusses the age restrictions for buying different categories of fireworks, the legal requirements for retailers, and the penalties for illegal possession or use. The briefing also covers the regulations on the sale of fireworks during specific periods and the enforcement of these laws.
4. <https://www.met.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/asb/asb/antisocial-behaviour/fireworks> - The Metropolitan Police's page on fireworks safety provides information on the legal use of fireworks, including permitted times and age restrictions. It emphasizes that fireworks can only be used between 7am and 11pm, with extended hours on certain occasions. The page also highlights the importance of using fireworks responsibly to prevent harm to people and animals and offers advice on reporting illegal use.
5. <https://www.britishfireworksassociation.co.uk/> - The British Fireworks Association (BFA) represents the majority of the UK's manufacturers and importers of consumer fireworks. The website offers guidance on the safe and sensible use of fireworks, promotes adherence to strict laws controlling the sale and use of fireworks, and provides information for retailers on safety standards. It also supports steps to increase penalties associated with firework misuse.
6. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/stay-safe-this-fireworks-season> - This UK government news article provides safety tips for the fireworks season, emphasizing the importance of purchasing fireworks from licensed sellers and adhering to curfews. It advises on the safe use of fireworks, including reading instructions carefully, keeping pets indoors, and being considerate to neighbors. The article also highlights the legal curfew times for setting off fireworks during specific occasions.
7. <https://www.london-fire.gov.uk/safety/fireworks> - The London Fire Brigade's page on fireworks safety offers advice on purchasing and using fireworks responsibly. It outlines the legal requirements for buying fireworks, including age restrictions and permitted sale periods. The page also provides safety tips for lighting fireworks, such as using a taper, keeping a safe distance, and supervising children. It emphasizes the importance of attending professional displays for a safer experience.