

★ JOIN THE FIGHT ★

Suffolk Consumer Champion
Weekly Bulletin

05/05/2017

This week's top features



Rogues Selling Chainsaws

We've had many reports of traders going door to door across the County offering to sell chainsaws and generators. Reports have been received in Ipswich, Stowmarket and Beccles.

Please be especially cautious of any individual who approaches you and offers to sell you something at an incredibly reduced price.

Trust your instincts - If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

Anyone who is offered goods for sale out the back of a van, by a person who approaches them in the street, or uninvited at the doorstep, should be highly suspicious. Goods sold in this way may be stolen, counterfeit, unsafe or simply overpriced.

Our advice is simply never to deal with traders in this way.

Anyone who is suspicious of goods offered for sale in this way should report the matter to Suffolk police by contacting the number 101, or by calling us via the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 03454 04 05 06.



Button Battery Safety

The dangers of button batteries was [highlighted again in the news recently](#) after a 2 year old girl nearly died after swallowing a lithium button battery from car key.

Button cell batteries can be found inside electronic devices including toys, musical books, key fobs and remote controls. If swallowed by small children they can get stuck in the throat and cause severe burns within two hours, or even death.

The risk is greatest when the button/coin cells in these devices are being replaced.

In most cases, they pass through the body naturally and do not cause any harm. However, button/coin cell batteries can lodge themselves in the oesophagus (food pipe) when swallowed. This can be very dangerous and, at worst, fatal.

If left untreated, an ingested lithium coin cell, lodged in the oesophagus, can generate an electric current from the contact between the battery and tissue fluids in the oesophagus. This will cause severe damage and urgent medical attention and immediate battery removal is required.

Ensure your child does not have access to devices if the battery compartment is not secure. If your child does swallow a button cell battery, seek medical advice immediately.

We recommend installing a catch on a cupboard or drawer where you might keep spare batteries or small items, which may contain button batteries.

Batteries in children's toys are covered by safety regulations, which require them to be enclosed by a screw. Great care should be taken when buying toys from temporary shops or unknown traders online as they may not follow safety regulations.

If you are concerned about the safety of a toy that you have purchased, stop using it immediately, and contact Suffolk Trading Standards on 03454 040506.



More Tumble Dryers Recalled

Curry's have discovered that the heating element in a small batch of Logik LVD7W15 tumble dryers, manufactured between March and April 2016 may pose a safety hazard. The heating element can overheat and may lead to a fire.

If you own a Logik LVD7W15 tumble dryer you should stop using it immediately. Switch it off and unplug it from the mains until you have received confirmation that the product is safe.

What should you do if you have one?

Call Currys on 0344 561 6202, quoting the serial number (it's on the inside of the door or on the rating label on the back of the tumble dryer) and your post code at the time of purchase.

What will Currys do?

Currys will tell you if your machine is affected. If it is not, then you can carry on using it as normal.

If your machine is at risk of fire, a technician will be booked to visit your home to replace the element.

[Check here](#) for a full list of domestic appliances that have been recalled, and then check you kitchen to see if you own one.

[Product Recalls](#)

[Fraud and Scam Advice](#)

[Consumer Rights](#)

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