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## Hot weather update from RAC patrols - Wednesday 2 July 2015

The hottest day of the year meant disrupted journeys for many motorists, with the RAC attending a third more cooling system-related breakdowns compared to the previous day.

RAC spokesman Simon Williams said: “The hottest July day on record brought with it a rise in the number of breakdowns, with a 71% increase in thermostat-related breakdowns and a 64% increase in cooling fan problems compared to Tuesday, which was itself a very hot day. Misfuels – where motorists accidentally fill a petrol vehicle with diesel or vice versa – also

remained at a similar, high level to Tuesday.

“There was no hiding from the heatwave as we also received reports of roads suffering from the effects of the heat. Our patrol Alan Downie in Bournemouth informed us that there were tyre tracks imprinted into the tarmac on the B3070 in Bournemouth, and over in Clevedon, our patrol Ryan Guy confirmed a road temperature reading of over 44C.

“What is particularly concerning to see is that the amount of vehicle fires doubled, the causes of which are still unknown. We are reminding all motorists to be extra alert during this particularly warm spell, which is set to return to some parts of the country tomorrow.”

The top three increases in RAC breakdowns on hottest 1 July compared to 30 June were:

1. Thermostat problems (71% increase)
2. Vehicle fire problems (50% increase)
3. Cylinder head gasket problems (33% increase)

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The press office email address is [press.office@rac.co.uk](mailto:press.office@rac.co.uk) and media centre is at [media.rac.co.uk](http://media.rac.co.uk). **Please note:** the press office is unable to help with individual customer enquiries - please visit the [RAC contacts page](#) to find the right contact.

## About the RAC

The RAC, an iconic UK brand, provides complete peace of mind to nearly 14 million UK private and business drivers, whatever their motoring needs. As well as its premium nationwide breakdown assistance service – with an expert branded patrol workforce attending more than two million breakdowns every year – it offers a wide range of market-leading products across insurance, legal services, vehicle inspections and service, maintenance and repair. Included in this is the first-of-its-kind nationwide Mobile Mechanics service which brings the garage to homes and workplaces.

At the forefront of new solutions for business fleets and consumers, the RAC's breakdown service is electric-ready with mobile EV charging technology and can be called on using [myRAC](#) – the all-in-one route planner, fuel finder and breakdown reporting app.

Visit the [RAC website](#).

## Contacts



### **RAC Press Office**

Press Contact

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