

BEAT THE TAX BANDITS

SUNDAY Sun joins forces with police to safeguard your motor



'Worth up to £140, the disc is the only valuable you cannot lock away in the boot, and is on view to all potential thieves.'

1000 remove your car stereo from the dashboard, put on the steering lock and activate your M-1000 alarm system. You've now hidden your tape collection in the boot away from curious eyes. Finally, you think, your measured motor is safe from crooks. Police in the North, once dubbed the car or tax capital of Europe, have been pounding home the message that such a message is not so certain. And it's finally getting through. But no one could guard against a dog snuffling through the windscreen and eating your tax disc.

UNTIL NOW, ALMOST 2000 are stolen in the North every year. The Government last week launched a tough clampdown on road tax dodgers, clamping cars with out valid discs. Motorists will even be stopped if their owners fail to cough up in a pilot scheme in London which is expected to go nationwide if successful. Transport ministers say tax discs that are snaffled because thieves can't see them will really look out a lot of these motorists, said Tony Gilroy, who coordinates a nationwide anti-car crime squad. The Government's low about 1150 million a year through measures falling to pay their road tax. Cheats in the North alone cost the treasury £83 million last year, with an out of over 500 million on the road either serving a dodgy disc.

But it was not to beat the tax bandits with a new, tougher road tax but to help for every motorist. Anyone trying to grab your disc is held because the paper will rip and become useless in a split second. Motorists can do to make sure they don't fall victim of thieves. Northumbria Police have bought 700 of the tamper proof holders for their own squad cars from the Sunday Sun, and other forces across the North are showing interest. A Cumbria Police spokesman said: "You can never be too careful when protecting your car."

These holders could help by being in the boot and



SMASH 'N' GRAB but now the police have snapped up 700 of our anti-theft tax disc holders for their GVN patrol cars.

See the holders in their in-cab position. See www.sunday-sun.co.uk

SUPPORT: Tony Gilroy, who co-ordinates the national crime unit, is backing our revolutionary bid to foil the villains.



CRACKDOWN: A warden books a car for a dodgy tax disc. Cheating drivers, who cost the country £100 million a year, face having their cars clamped or scrapped.

Peace of mind costs just 99p

YOUR champion Sunday Sun is helping you to buy tax disc holders better with a great 99p offer. With the company's Sun-Disc, you'll get an in-cab holder to stop crooks tampering with your tax disc. SUPPORTED by the region's police force, the holder works by using a stick cover to ensure the disc isn't anyone trying to remove it. And you can order yours today by just 99p. The holder has been thoroughly tested by the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency who want to stamp out the massive losses suffered because of disc theft. SOLD SECURE, the police force's own organization, offer free and expert advice on all their devices on 0800 100 1000. If you buy the Sunday Sun disc holder, you'll be a winner in the fight against disc theft. TO ORDER your disc holder, simply fill in the coupon, right, and send 99p by cheque or postal order, made payable to Newcastle Chronicle and Journal Ltd, in the address shown. LOCAL stores on 146 with your order. The tax disc holders are also available from our nearest office in Great Malvern, Herefordshire. ONLY at the nearest weeks, Sunday Sun spots will be taking out across the North by readers' cars springing the tax disc holder. KEEP an eye on your champion Sunday Sun's website www.sunday-sun.co.uk for more information. AND if your number is quoted and we print it, you can claim a cheap £10 note

The information allows experts to spot forgeries by cross comparing discs from search. But that does not prevent stolen discs being tampered with. Tony says discs can also be used to "tag" - stealing vehicles that give them a whole new identity with false MOT and ownership documents. He said: "It's all part and parcel of fraudulent use of documents and that's of tax discs can be the starting point for that."

But even without counterfeiting devices like the holders, thieves will tip drivers can follow to make the "thieves" even harder. When buying a new car, check the registration and accident the disc to make sure that it matches the vehicle. Tony said "If you're buying a Ford but it says Vectra on the tax disc, then there's obviously something very wrong."

And then bought a long way from where the car is being sold also ought to attract suspicion.

Drivers who do get their tax discs stolen should report the theft to police and tell the DVLA on a special form, available from the Post Office. If they have their car with out a disc, they could face a fine of up to £100. Police warn that a full at vehicle crime does NOT mean drivers can drop their guard. During a spike of thefts in York, crooks have even been removing rubber seals from windcreens and stealing the tax discs still attached to the glass.

HOW IT WORKS.....

STEPS 1 & 2

Stick your brand new Sunday Sun tax disc holder in the back of the window. Think very carefully about the backing of the license holder. Then you place it on a flat surface adhesive side up. Carefully place the back of your tax disc in the centre slot, pressing down on it firmly.

STEP 3

Remove the paper backing from the clear plastic, and then carefully place it over the back of your tax disc.

SMOOTH

Do not try to move the plastic, as you have fixed it to the disc on this will damage it. All you have to do next is position the adhesive side of the license holder in the correct place - on the windscreen and smooth it into place.

If you enclosed to return the disc to the DVLA, all you have to do is peel off the holder from your windscreen and put out the disc before sending it back.

WARNING

DO NOT REMOVE UNDER PENALTY

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PROTECTED BY SUNDAY Sun

SUNDAY SUN TAX DISC HOLDER OFFER

Please send... tax disc holders at 99p each

Title: Mr Mrs Miss Ms Initial _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Post Code _____ Tel. No. _____

Send to: Tax Disc Offer, Sunday Sun, Great Market, Newcastle, NE1 1ED

REMEMBER — YOU CAN WIN A TENNER BY USING YOUR SUNDAY SUN TAX DISC HOLDER