

NOTTINGHAM POST

Founded: Wednesday, May 1, 1878

More action needed to tackle cyber bullies

SCHOOL bullies are often small minded, weak individuals who have little idea of the suffering they can cause. But for those on the receiving end they can appear all powerful.

In years gone by a bully's victim could escape the physical threat at the end of the school day.

In addition, those who felt compelled to join in had to do so in person, with the risk of being seen and the discomfort of witnessing the distress their actions caused.

That is not the case now. Internet bullying poses a real risk to children's welfare and that can follow a victim home.

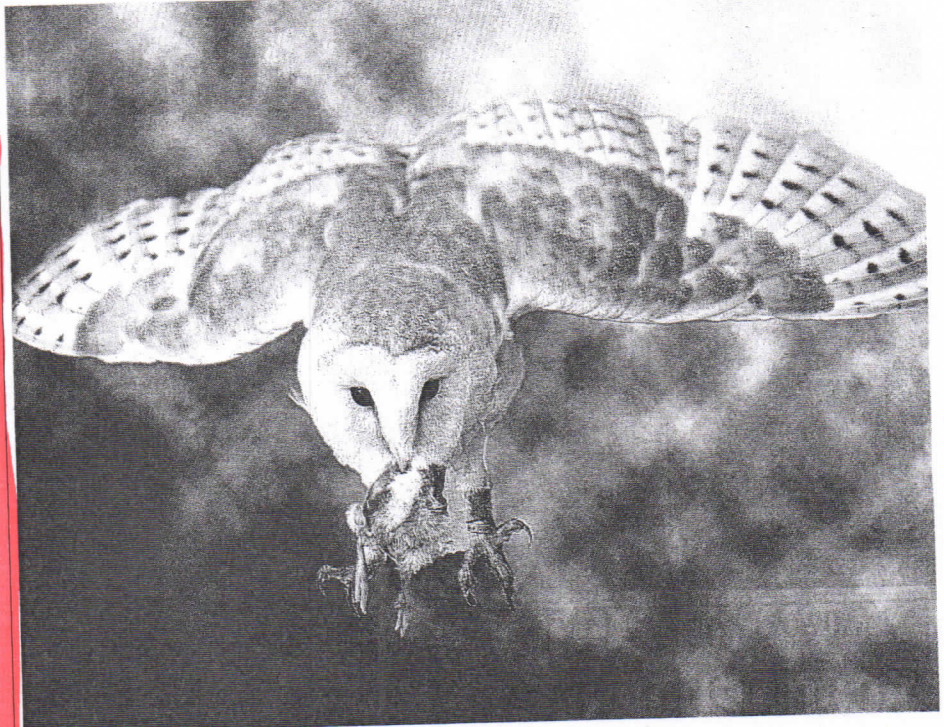
If the abuse is streaming through your phone or home computer there is really nowhere to hide.

So, it is encouraging that Derbyshire schools are taking the threat of cyber bullying so seriously.

One school, Wilsthorpe Community School, is leading the way with a proactive approach that has reduced bullying incidents while reducing the number of pupils excluded, and encouraging attendance.

It comes as no surprise that better attendance has coincided with a reduction in bullying. Now, representatives of Derbyshire schools are invited to attend a conference on bullying. This is an important initiative, which could help protect youngsters.

Opinion & your pictures



Feeding time: Simon Rooke of Bingham took this picture of a tawny owl belonging to Kilton Pet and Raptor Rescue of Worksop. We are looking for photographs that convey the essence of the city or county or tell a news story. Please e-mail them to pictures@nottinghampostgroup.co.uk.

Hats off to...

REBECCA ADLINGTON
NOTTS golden girl Becky Adlington is a glutton for punishment. After training for years to represent her county and country on the world stage in swimming she has now embarked on an epic bike ride in Africa to raise money for charity. It is a tough challenge but can there be any doubt that our girl will triumph? Go Becky!



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Big derby game should have had later kick-off

AFTER reading the press reports the week preceding about the Robin Hood Marathon and Nottingham Forest's home match with Derby County, we decided to heed the police advice and not travel by car to the City Ground.

I and my companions (three of us old-age pensioners, plus two children) left our vehicle at Wilkinson Street tram depot and caught the tram to Station Street where our plan was to walk across the bridge on to Queens Drive and then on to the match at the City Ground.

However, after walking across the bridge, our way was blocked by stewards in high-viz tops who told us that we would have to walk all the way back to Station Street which we did without any arguments - only to be joined by the Derby County fans coming up from the platform after leaving their trains (which they have the right to do).

As the Derby fans appeared my 10-year-old daughter burst into tears at (and I quote) her words... "Daddy, it's horrible what they are singing".

Now it's not the fact that the Derby fans were there that is so upsetting, but the fact that we were put into that situation by the authorities whether it be the police or the jobsworth at the end of the bridge (who, incidentally, wouldn't tell us who they were responsible to).

As far as I could see there

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Please include your full name, address, postcode and phone number

Tell us your stories

We want to know what's happening in your street, your workplace, your school. Tell us your family news and achievements. Write to us at one of the addresses on the left or call our newsdesk 0115 9482000

were only two policemen on the bridge, which brings me to the point: Why oh why was this high-profile match allowed to kick off at 1.15pm when the marathon runners and spectators were still in the area?

The police said in the press that they could cope with this, but the lack of their presence there made a mockery of their boasts.

I can't for the life of me understand why the crowds were sent back to Station Street anyway, when the shortest route out of the station is on to Queens Drive (even for the Derby fans).

But hey - I'm only a member of the public. Why should I have an opinion?

DAVID A BANKS
Frances Street
Brinsley

Sneinton is now a big car park thanks to levy

SO it's six months since the Work Place Parking Levy came to Nottingham to help provide funding for the NET Tram Phase Two, which is going Clifton and Beeston and all I can see is it has made Sneinton a car park.

With Sneinton being so close to town from 8.30am

until 6pm, the corner of Sneinton Hermitage on Colwick Road becomes a free car park for people working in Nottingham.

With the parking levy now in Nottingham it has been noticeable that more and more cars in the last six months have started parking in Sneinton.

The cars using Sneinton as a car park don't park properly - they park on both sides of the road up on the kerb so pedestrians can't walk around them. The number 44 bus and other traffic now struggles to get through Sneinton and one day I believe there will be a bad accident on that corner if something isn't done.

LIAM LOAKES
Whittier Road
Sneinton

'Only' is one of our most misused words

ONE of the most misused words in the English language today is the word "only".

A small lettuce is marked up at "only" £1. In my young day you'd have needed a lorry to carry £1 of lettuces! Ditto a tray of four albeit big plums also carried the legend "only" £1. That's five shillings each!

Today I saw four lemons on

the "reduced" section of a local supermarket, one of which was green and two of which were wrinkled and fit only for the pig bin, but were still priced at 69p. That's damn near 14 shillings!

In the same store I also spotted a smallish leg of lamb. £23.64! Yes, that's right and its common today to see some bread priced at £1.50 a loaf, again I could not have carried £1.50's worth of bread in my younger days.

My heart goes out to parents who are struggling to feed their kids. I recall with absolute horror one day watching a certain local supermarket needing two staff to carry to their waste bin a HUGE plastic bag containing hundreds of unsold fresh cream cakes. It's time the practice of throwing out perfectly good food was outlawed.

JOY JAMES
Colwick Park Close
Colwick Village

Cameron's Government scores just 2 out of 10

GOVERNMENTS should rise or fall judged by how they have treated the poor and vulnerable in our society.

By that test Cameron's Tory-led Government have done very badly. Not scoring more than 2 out of 10.

They have behaved like mean-spirited Tories of old, with the Liberals having a minor civilising effect.

The Tory-led Coalition started off with a laughable slogan: "We Are All In It Together". We are clearly not and the new mantra should be