

NEWS

Violent 'cheat' avoids prison

A "CHEATING" partner pressed a bread knife against his girlfriend's throat and then threatened to kill her, a court heard.

Tony Jogia (30), of Argyll Street, Ripley, "turned nasty" on August 29 last year after Marie Smith found a text message from another woman on the mobile she had lent him.

When she refused to give him the phone back, he threatened her, saying: "Give me the phone or I will kill you tonight", Derby Crown Court heard.

Jogia then pulled Miss Smith's hair and dragged her across the room before kicking her three times on her leg, said Mark Achurch, prosecuting. He then produced a bread knife, pressed it to her throat and threatened to kill her again.

Jogia admitted causing Miss Smith actual bodily harm as well as stealing cheques, dishonestly obtaining £50 in cash, possessing cannabis and failing to attend court.

Recorder Patrick Thomas QC ordered Jogia to do 100 hours of community punishment and put him on a two-year community rehabilitation order. He was fined £100 and ordered to pay £750 compensation and £750 costs.

Election runners named

CANDIDATES for the Derby City Council elections in June will be announced tomorrow.

Eighteen seats on the council are up for election this year – one for each of the city council's 17 wards plus a by-election for the Boulton seat.

The Boulton seat was held by anti-speed humps campaigner Ron Allen until his death earlier this year.

Elections in Derby will be all-postal this year as part of a trial in four regions of the country to boost voter turnout.

Postal voting papers will be sent out from May 27 and must be returned and received by polling day, on Thursday, June 10.

Nominations for candidates must be lodged by tomorrow.



PUNK FROCK: Five mums desperate for a break from maternal duties have smashed convention to form a five-piece Derby punk band.

But rather than singing about anarchy in the UK, like 1970s punk rockers the Sex Pistols, the mums' original repertoire of self-penned songs celebrate motherhood in all its glory, including burning the tea and battling with nits.

And last night, the group, called The Mothers, played its first-ever live gig at the Victoria Inn, Midland Place, Derby.

The concert went ahead despite the fact that one of the lead singers, Nicci Wilson (34), of Beeston, is heavily pregnant, expecting her first baby.

Visual artist Ms Wilson, step-mum to 10-year-old Tallissa, said: "I'm eight months' pregnant, so I'm sure some people were surprised to see me on

stage. But it's been fun being a part of the band. I couldn't miss the gig."

The Mothers' debut performance was a resounding success, said Beth de Lange (35), of Chestnut Avenue, Derby, the group's guitarist "We were feeling nervous about doing our first official public performance, but it was good. Lots of our family and friends came."

● Punk band mothers rip up convention: Pages 18 and 19.

Vigilantes beat suspected paedophile to death

Life sentences for 'dreadful' murder

THREE vigilantes who beat a suspected paedophile to death were told taking the law into their own hands was never justified, as they were jailed for life today.

Daniel Poole (21) must serve a minimum of 14 years before he is considered for parole, his uncle, Steven Poole (37) will be behind bars for at least 12 years and their friend Richard Greyham (31) for 13 years.

Mr Justice Gage told them at Nottingham Crown Court that their murder of father-of-three, Matthew Murray (39) was "a dreadful crime, which not surprisingly has had a traumatic and devastating effect on his family".

Mr Murray was punched, stamped on and kicked as he tried to escape from Mickley following an initial attack on him in his own home in Priestley Avenue.

The Pooles and Steven Poole's girlfriend, Michelle Warriner (24), of Hawthorne Avenue, Mickley, attacked him within hours of Warriner giving a statement to the police about Mr Murray's alleged sexual abuse of a



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young girl.

Mother-of-two Warriner, who struck Mr Murray with a crowbar as he lay seriously injured on the floor of his house, was jailed for eight months after admitting causing him actual bodily harm.

The Pooles also admitted the same charge and were jailed for three years concurrently to their life sentences. Mr Murray was so terrified by the beating, he ran to a bus stop on the A61 in nearby Stretton, to travel to safety in Chesterfield, the court heard during the murder trial.

Greyham then drove the Pooles to look for Mr Murray – who died of a tear to the wall in

his heart after his chest was stamped on.

Daniel Poole had a "poor record" for violence and dishonesty offences, the court heard. Mitigating on his behalf, Peter Joyce QC, said: "The young man was an uneducated, minor criminal, an angry and easily led young man."

His uncle had believed the girl's allegation and knew somebody who had been sexually abused, the court heard.

Greyham, who had no previous convictions, was someone with a low IQ who acted without thinking, the court heard.

Mr Justice Gage told the trio, who were convicted of murder last week: "It was not a spur of the moment attack. All three of you wanted to have another go at Mr Murray."

"It involved taking the law into your own hands, an action which is never justified."

NEWS

IN BRIEF

Man killed in A61 accident

TUPTON: A 25-year-old man was killed in a road accident at 2.45pm on Friday. The accident occurred on the A61 Derby Road near Clay Cross, and involved a red Peugeot 205 GTR, a white Rover and a black Peugeot 306.

Both the Rover and the black Peugeot were travelling towards Clay Cross when the Rover was in collision with the red Peugeot coming in the opposite direction.

The driver of the red Peugeot, a 25-year-old man, died.

Witnesses should call 0773 572929.

Car key warning

SOUTH NORMANTON: Police have advised car owners to take their keys to bed with them, following the theft of two cars during a burglary at a house in Edale Close. During the break-in, discovered on Thursday morning, thieves found keys to a BMW and Ford Cougar, and drove off in them.

Daniela's a rose

DERBY: Trainee solicitor Daniela McGarry (pictured), of Nottingham, beat off competition from nine other girls to secure Derby's Rose of Tralee title.

The annual beauty pageant took place at The Spot banqueting suite, in Sacheverel Street, on Friday.

Miss McGarry (24), is now in the final to find an ambassador for Ireland, in Leicester on June 12.



Tories on TV



DERBY: Bargain-hunters Julie and Philip Hickson are pictured making their television debut with presenter and antiques expert Tim Wonnacott.

The two Conservative councillors on Derby City Council, who are brother and sister, made up the blue team for a show of BBC1 daytime's Bargain Hunt, to be screened in the autumn.

The items will be sold at an auction house in Stratford-upon-Avon on Friday, May 28.

Body discovered

ASHBOURNE: The body of man was found hanging from scaffolding at the back of a derelict building in the Bridge Hill area of Mayfield, near Ashbourne, at 11.15am yesterday.

Police are not treating the death as suspicious.

Wedding bells...

NORMANTON: A bride and groom were trapped in a lift for an hour during their wedding reception at Kohinoor Banqueting Suite, in Cotton Brook Road, yesterday.

The newlyweds, along with three other wedding guests, raised the alarm shortly after 6pm, when the lift mechanism failed. Firefighters freed them within 10 minutes.

Wife's plea spares alcoholic from time inside

AN alcoholic who behaved "outrageously" towards his wife has not been sent to prison because she wanted him to get help.

David Spencer (43) turned on Edwina Spencer at their home in Silver Lane, Elvaston, when he was drunk on January 21, Derby Crown Court heard yesterday.

He was on medication for his drink problem and taking anti-depressants when he insisted she returned to their bedroom. Mrs Spencer was sleeping in their two daughters' bedroom because he had become "rather erratic".

Clive Stockwell, prosecuting, said: "The defendant – no doubt

in drink – began swallowing his tablets. He started to make advances towards his wife. She resisted and he became abusive, calling her fat and frigid."

Spencer took more tablets and refused to let his wife leave the room, causing her great fright and distress, the court heard. He eventually calmed

down, positioning himself with pillows at the top of the stairs.

The couple, whose children are 12 and four, was now getting divorced, the court heard.

But Mrs Spencer, who wrote a "moving" letter to the court, did not feel prison was the answer.

Recorder Patrick Thomas QC put Spencer, who admitted af-

fray, on a two-year community rehabilitation order. He told him: "You're a thoroughly decent, highly intelligent man with a great deal to offer the world."

He said Spencer, now of Lea Road, Lea Bridge, near Matlock, had acted outrageously and terrified his wife, but nobody was harmed.