# South Shields Man Jailed for Strangling Former Partner; Majorca Protests Over Tourist Overcrowding Emerge; Newcastle University Protest Leads to Arrests



### South Shields Man Jailed for Strangling Former Partner

Philip Ormonde, 37, has been sentenced to 15 months in prison at Newcastle Crown Court after pleading guilty to non-fatal strangulation, witness intimidation, and assault by beating. The court heard that Ormonde strangled his former partner, mocked her by saying "Oh look, the princess is crying," and committed the crime at their home around 5am while she was in bed. He was also given a five-year restraining order against the victim.

### Majorca Protests Against Tourist Overcrowding

In Majorca, a neighbourhood organisation called Banc de Temps de Sencelles has proposed a rule requiring a five-year residency for property purchases. This proposal emerged amid protests involving 10,000 participants demanding better housing access and controlled tourism. The group calls for various measures, including rental price regulation and restrictions on home purchases by non-residents.

### Ruby Davies Wins Eisteddfod Yr Urdd Competition

Ruby Davies, an 11-year-old from Llanelli, won the individual recitation competition for Year 5 and 6 Welsh learners at this year's Urdd Eisteddfod in Meifod, Powys. Post-victory, Davies' heartfelt interview with Welsh presenter Mari Lovgreen gained attention on social media, charming viewers with her infectious excitement.

### Shields Ferry Skipper Retires After 33 Years

Chris McGuinness, 63, a Shields Ferry skipper known for his resemblance to Sting, retired after 33 years. Colleagues gave him a guard of honour as he disembarked for the last time. McGuinness plans to spend time with his wife Roz and their golden retriever, Rannoch, touring the UK in a VW Camper van.

### Knife Sales to Underage Volunteer Lead to Investigations

Two shops in Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, are under investigation after selling a kitchen knife to a 14-year-old volunteer as part of a Trading Standards sting operation. This follows last year's similar incident involving another shop that resulted in a £6,000 fine. The operation aligns with the national crackdown on knife crime, Operation Sceptre.

### Controversy Over Morrisons’ New Cadbury Heroes Pick and Mix

Morrisons introduced a Cadbury Heroes Pick and Mix service in 15 stores, including Stoke-on-Trent's Festival Park. The £4 offering allows shoppers to create their own selection of chocolates but has faced criticism for being poor value compared to standard Cadbury product prices.

### Newcastle University Protest Leads to Arrests

Three individuals were arrested following a protest at Newcastle University's Armstrong Building, where around 20 activists, demanding Palestinian freedom and the university cut ties with certain entities, barricaded themselves inside. The protest extended to the Tyne Bridge, causing traffic disruptions, and led to two of the protesters being held in custody.

### Cardiff Rugby Announces 14 Player Departures

Cardiff Rugby will see 14 players, including eight Wales internationals, leave at the end of the season. Notable exits include Tomos Williams moving to Gloucester Rugby and prop Rhys Carre returning to Saracens. Head coach Matt Sherratt praised the departing players for their contributions.

### Attempted Knife Purchase By Minor Sparks Investigation

Two shops in Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, failed a Trading Standards test by selling a knife to a 14-year-old. The investigation is part of a broader effort to combat knife crime, following previous incidents and fines for local retailers.

### Liam Williams Eyes Return to Wales

Liam Williams, currently playing in Japan, is considering a return to Wales. The 33-year-old fullback, with a contract at Kubota Spears, is in discussions with Cardiff, Dragons, and Ospreys. His Test career has been impacted by his Japan stint, with Williams keen to play for Wales again.

### TUI Removes Passengers from Flight Due to Disruptive Behaviour

TUI removed passengers from a Glasgow to Cancun flight for disruptive behaviour, delaying the departure by over two hours. The airline emphasized its zero-tolerance policy towards such conduct, stating that the safety of customers and crew is paramount.

### Man Detained After Killing Wife During Psychotic Episode

Darryl Bowen, 43, was detained indefinitely in a hospital after pleading guilty to the manslaughter of his wife, Alison Bowen, during a psychotic episode. The incident occurred at their home in Kingswood, South Gloucestershire, last November. Bowen, who has been diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia, experienced severe religious delusions at the time.

### Cardiff Rugby Faces Major Player Rehaul

Cardiff Rugby announced a major overhaul with 14 players, including key Wales internationals, leaving the club. The departures add to the challenges of rebuilding the team for next season, although the club has secured new signings, including players ideal for future engagements.

### Decline in Drama and Media Studies A-levels

Provisional figures for England show a decline in A-level entries for drama (5.8%) and media studies (1.3%). Conversely, computing and languages have seen a surge in popularity, supported by government initiatives like the English Baccalaureate (EBacc).

### Police Appeal After Car Incident Involving Child

Police are appealing for witnesses after a car, described as an older-style blue convertible Saab, reportedly drove at a child riding a bike near Maes y Gwendraeth school in Cefneithin. Despite no injuries, officers seek information or dashcam footage connected to the May 10 incident.

### Police Name Deceased Man in Appeal for Relatives

Staffordshire Police have named Carl Ashton, 68, who was found dead at his home in Boothen, Stoke-on-Trent, as they seek to trace his next of kin. His death is not being treated as suspicious, and the coroner's office requests information from anyone who can help identify his relatives.

### Bedminster Nursery Receives Praise from Ofsted

North Street Nursery in Bedminster has received a positive Ofsted report. The nursery was commended for its balanced curriculum, individualised learning, and focus on safety. The report acknowledged the nursery's need to enhance language development and further improve literacy resources.

### Inquest Concludes Woman Slipped Into River Dee

An inquest concluded that Lucy Charles, 39, from Bangor-on-Dee, likely slipped into a swollen River Dee after drinking by its bank. Charles, who had lost her job recently, was last seen on December 22, 2022. The coroner ruled out suicide, attributing her death to misadventure due to acute alcohol intoxication.

### Family Pays Tribute to Teen Killed in Crash

The family of Sophie Bates, 17, from Stafford, paid tribute after she succumbed to injuries from a fatal crash in Penkridge. Bates, who was critically injured while a backseat passenger in a Ford Ka, was the third teenager to die from the incident. Tributes were also paid to Dafydd Hûw Craven-Jones and Morgan Jones, who died at the scene.

### Newcastle University Protest Ends With Arrests

Three people were arrested following a protest at Newcastle University’s Armstrong Building. The protestors, advocating for Palestinian rights, disrupted the area, leading to a barricade and a significant police response. The university has condemned the occupation and warned involved students of disciplinary action.