

Eastern Daily Press

SERVING THE COMMUNITY
SINCE 1870

Resolute response of the millions show terror will not win

Last week saw three days of utter horror – journalists murdered in their newsroom; Jews killed for no other reason than their faith; police officers shot dead in cold blood; hostages held at gunpoint by suicidal fanatics. But now we have witnessed a defiant, moving and dignified contrast.

Led by the families of the victims, more than a million people, and dozens of leaders from around the world, marched together in Paris. Countless others in cities elsewhere gathered to stand with them.

All were united around the simple re-statement of our belief in democracy, freedom and tolerance.

It was a resolute and eloquent, indeed overwhelming, message to the extremists who use a perverted misreading of Islam to try to threaten our beliefs and way of life. They will not succeed. We will not be cowed. We will not retreat.

The attacks in Paris were attacks on us all, and this evening people here in Norfolk will gather outside The Forum in Norwich to make their own tribute to those who lost their lives across the Channel.

Organiser Clementine Pellegrino said the event, at 6.30pm, would be one of “peace and mind-opening” and demonstrate people in Norwich “are not ready to accept censorship and a dominant thought”. She is right. The quiet actions of millions of ordinary people of all nationalities, races and religions is a clear and unambiguous response to those few who perpetrated the evil that sought to undermine our way of life.

They will not succeed. We stand united, and we stand stronger than ever.

Why appeal matters

The experience of the Taylor family shows why people across our region should get behind East Anglia's Children's Hospices's nook appeal.

Following the devastating loss of their baby son Jude, the Taylors were offered a haven at Quidenham Hospice where they could begin to grieve and say goodbye.

From helping the family to create treasured keepsakes, to offering specialist sibling support to Jude's older brother Ethan, the staff at Quidenham have been with them every step of the way.

Now EACH needs our help as it has outgrown Quidenham Hospice and needs to relocate to Framingham Earl. The charity has to raise £10m to build a new hospice offering better care than ever before to parents who find themselves in the same situation as the Taylors.

300 years of ringing

Norwich is a city steeped in history and 2015 will be an important year for the city's bell-ringing community as it looks to mark the 300th anniversary of the world's “first true peal” at St Peter Mancroft Church.

We wish the church's guild of ringers well in their endeavours to create a heritage and training centre to ensure the joy of campanology continues to flourish in Norwich and throughout our region.

READER'S PICTURE OF THE DAY

iwitness24



■ While waiting for a buzzard, Gavin Bickerton-Jones saw this hare run out from nowhere across his path in the sunlight. He was very pleased with the result, but didn't see the buzzard! If you would like to submit a picture for possible publication in the EDP, visit www.iwitness24.co.uk

Some so-called 'rules' are just made to be broken

Peter Trudgill



email: newsdesk@archant.co.uk

“So aren't there any rules?” someone has asked me. They were referring to my writing in these columns that there's no reason why you shouldn't end a sentence with a preposition – “She's someone I'm very fond of” is a perfectly good, grammatical English sentence.

And to my maintaining that there's no reason why you shouldn't begin a sentence with a conjunction like “and” or “but” – as in the case of this sentence, which is also perfectly grammatical.

And that there's no reason why you shouldn't say “The man who I saw” – it doesn't have to be “whom”.

But “we were always taught”, people say, that there were these rules. Yes, we were always taught these things. But what we were taught was wrong.

There's a very good reason why $2 \times 2 = 5$ is incorrect. But there's no reason why putting a preposition at the end of a sentence in English is “wrong”.

This is just a “rule” which someone who had no authority to do so invented.

But, yes, there really are rules – lots of them, and they're rather strict. We were just not “always taught” these at school, because by the time we were four years old we knew them already.



■ Young people instinctively learn the correct order of words in sentences says Peter Trudgill. Picture: LIBRARY

Here's a very strict rule of English grammar: always put an adjective before a noun, not after it.

It's right to say “the big house” and wrong to say “the house big”. People learning English as a foreign language are “always taught” that, but no one taught us this rule – we worked it out for ourselves, without realising we were doing so, as small children.

And we figured out all the other rules about English adjectives too – like how it's correct to say “the big new white house” and not “the white new big house”.

Here's another rule: stative verbs should not be used with the progressive aspect. You didn't realise you knew that? Well, all it means is that it's right to say “I know him well”, and wrong to say “I am knowing him well”, which would be breaking a real rule of English grammar.

People learning English as a foreign language have trouble with that one. Rules can vary between one dialect and another too.

In the Norfolk dialect, it's wrong to say “He was a-hitten it” and right to say “He was a-hitten on it”. And no one taught us that either.

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Splendour and majesty are in his presence.
Strength and joy are where he is.
1 Chronicles 16:27

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