
Lucky lad !!

Posted by TLJ - 2008/09/04 20:18

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/7598674.stm>

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Brenna1508 - 2008/09/04 21:31

Very lucky and totally stupid!

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by LYDIA REID - 2008/09/04 21:42

We have a high School, which backs onto a busy main road in the same way. My boys went to that School, when we found youngsters doing just that jumping the wall we campaigned for an opening in the wall and a green man crossing and got it. I cannot believe how lucky that boy is.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Levenax - 2008/09/04 22:56

I've got no sympathy for him. He's a complete moron who might have caused serious damage to the bus or other road users. Surely he could be charged with some offence? Cretinously causing an accident perhaps? I bet you the bus driver is really pissed off with him too.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by DoricMan - 2008/09/05 15:39

At this age we are all impervious to danger and risk. During the 39/45 war broken bits of Spitfires, Hurricanes from crashes, including ordinance were traded in my school playground. One of my pals somehow acquired the control column from a Spitfire, but that never came on the school's market. The other treasures included ammunition, 303 and cannon shells. One madman decided to chuck the armed part of a cannon shell against the outer granite wall of the school. On seeing this I fled round the corner just before a loud deafening explosion, the nitwit appeared hopping in agony with a bit of metal stuck in his foot. He managed to return to classes as if nothing happened. However, next day we were all quizzed about it by the head, and of course knew nothing about this. Then there was the time when a budding pyrotechnic idiot went back to an explosive device that had not gone off, and it blew up in his face, leaving him blind in one eye. Plus ca change. :S

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by LYDIA REID - 2008/09/05 16:30

Levenax wrote:

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Lev,

Surely when you were a boy, you did things that were considered stupid or dangerous.

It is the prerogative of the young in any generation to worry the adults and the prerogative of the adults to worry and scelp their lug.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Clare - 2008/09/05 16:43

LYDIA REID wrote:

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And what about the bus driver Lydia? How would he have been affected had the boy been killed? Just put it down to experience and boys being boys? Somehow I think the effect would have been slightly more serious than than. Lev is right. I'm sure we were all foolish when we were younger but what this boy did was a bit more than that. Fun is fun but putting your life and the lives of others at risk is just plain stupid.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by LYDIA REID - 2008/09/05 16:55

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I have no doubt every one of the children at that school going home that way jump over that wall.

Maybe we should look at the responsibility of the adults who have not created an opening in the wall and a crossing to keep them safe.

I have no doubt the bus driver would have been devastated and is even now counting his blessings, but it is our responsibility as adults to keep our children safe and if this lad was at school he is still probably referred to as a child. Within the same school their will be younger children with even less sense of responsibility. Where is the protection for them?

He seemed to catch his foot as he went over doing what he probably does every day twice a day that in my view does

not mean he is a criminal trying to give the bus driver a heart attack. It means he is a very stupid boy who has I hope learned a very serious lesson and has hopefully set an example for other children in that they will not want to copy his actions.

I have a feeling that the reason we have a childhood is to learn and the reason we are given children is to teach them.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by TLJ - 2008/09/05 17:29

LYDIA REID wrote:

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Hear, hear.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Brenna1508 - 2008/09/05 17:44

TLJ agreed: Hear, hear. Seconded!

Lydia suggested: I have a feeling that the reason we have a childhood is to learn and the reason we are given children is to teach them. I also agree with that to a point Lydia. I would add, however, that I believe we also learn from our children.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by LYDIA REID - 2008/09/05 21:18

Brenna1508 wrote:

TLJ agreed: Hear, hear. Seconded!

Lydia suggested: I have a feeling that the reason we have a childhood is to learn and the reason we are given children is to teach them. I also agree with that to a point Lydia. I would add, however, that I believe we also learn from our children.

From all our children I agree. We hopefully grow and learn with them, and with intelligence and self-will, never stop learning.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Bananaman - 2008/09/05 22:44

Nope he should think himself lucky he wasn't thrashed. He deserves national service at the least.

And his parents must be in need of some remedial classes for having a youngster who doesn't obey the rules and takes shortcuts.

He should be made to apologise to the bus driver and all the other citizens his selfish behaviour inconvenienced.

Make no mistake he's probably on his way to being a threat to society. In fact its probably already too late so lets neuter him and just segregate him from the normal decent folk.:woohoo: :woohoo: :woohoo: :woohoo:

He's a kid for God sake. He meant no harm and I'll bet he got a real fright. Plus there's no sort of personality details so we have no way of knowing if he's a 'good kid', a 'bit of a tearaway' or what sort of person he is. We don't know why he took that shortcut. Was his mum ill so he was trying to get home to help her? Was it his turn to walk his dog and he was excited?

Leave him off, show a bit of human sympathy and compassion.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Clare - 2008/09/05 23:16

Lydia, he JUMPED over a railing into the path of traffic on a busy road. How on earth is that the fault of adults? There was a crossing just yards away.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Robin T Cox - 2008/09/06 20:29

Clare asks:

Lydia, he JUMPED over a railing into the path of traffic on a busy road. How on earth is that the fault of adults? There was a crossing just yards away.

I think Lydia was suggesting that if adults had created an opening in the wall, and a crossing to keep them safe, this young man would have had nothing to jump over.

Lydia wrote:

Maybe we should look at the responsibility of the adults who have not created an opening in the wall and a crossing to keep them safe.

Plainly, prevention is better than cure, and it is realistic not to expect mature judgement from the young, but to design such crossings with the young in mind, and in order to minimise risk.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by LYDIA REID - 2008/09/06 22:31

I think you have said it all Robin.

When my boys were young we faced exactly that problem and encountered resistance when we wanted a space or hole in the wall, which incidentally gave the residents of the area a short cut into the park which backs onto the Secondary School.

We were the parents with the God given right and responsibility to protect our offspring.

We sat on the main road and blocked the traffic until a council official told us we would get not only the hole in the wall but also a crossing. We sat with our babies in prams and our dogs and the local grannies joined in.

The reason we did that, a young boy jumped the wall as all the children did to save them a twenty-minute walk and he faced years of treatment. Knowing that the young will be young when they have football practice, homework to do before they could go swimming, or a hundred other reasons, we fought for a sensible solution.

It is indeed interesting to read the Children's (Scotland) Act; each time it refers to parenting, it discusses rights and responsibilities.

Children are children. I wish I could go back and take away every heartache I ever caused my parents but I can't because although a tomboy as a child I was otherwise very normal and did all the normal childish things. It is how we learn to be people. Children are just adults with L-plates on.

Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Clare - 2008/09/07 00:02

Robin T Cox wrote:

Clare asks:

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Lydia wrote:

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Plainly, prevention is better than cure, and it is realistic not to expect mature judgement from the young, but to design such crossings with the young in mind, and in order to minimise risk.

Robin, I think you should look at the video again. There IS a crossing only yards from where he jumped over the SAFETY fence which I assume is there to protect pedestrians from traffic or traffic from pedestrians crossing away from the pelican. The crossing IS there, as are the traffic lights, so the safety aspect IS covered.

Blaming ourselves for idiot young people really isn't the way to go nor is making excuses for them. Fortunately the vast majority have common sense which is something we should be thankful for. I think the majority of young people will view this footage and proclaim the person at the centre of it a complete idiot. And rightly so. I don't think he's typical. To suggest this particular road is somehow to blame, or planners are to blame is just plain stupid when the crossing is plain to see in the footage itself.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Robin T Cox - 2008/09/07 08:58

Clearly in this case the design intention behind the structure failed to achieve the result of delivering safety. And therefore the design was flawed.

Blaming the user for a flawed design does not help. This has been tried many times before, which is why better safety on our roads has been so difficult to achieve.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by TLJ - 2008/09/07 09:55

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The guy did one stupid thing. For all we know, it's the only time he's done it - and he most certainly won't do it again.

Have you not ever taken a short cut in doing anything and put yourself at risk ? Have you never stepped of a pavement and not noticed a car coming the other way ? Have you never been distracted and done something you wouldn't normally do ?

I know I have. And I have no doubt I will do so again.

But then I'm not perfect.

=====

Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Clare - 2008/09/07 11:56

TLJ wrote:

Clare wrote:

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I know I have. And I have no doubt I will do so again.

But then I'm not perfect.

TLJ I'm not perfect either and I don't recall claiming to be.

I think the fact we have this particular incident caught on camera proves just how stupid and irresponsible this lad is. He did not step off a pavement. He jumped into the path of oncoming traffic, over a safety railing, when there was a crossing only yards away.

What I really can't get my head around is that the blame is being put on everyone else. People are talking about getting walls knocked down for God's sake and suggesting it isn't this boy's own fault and demanding safety improvements. Like I said, there was a crossing yards away, he just chose not to use it and I'm wondering why people are choosing to ignore that. I'm sorry if you don't understand that aspect yourself but I really am amazed.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by TLJ - 2008/09/07 12:04

Clare wrote:

I think the fact we have this particular incident caught on camera proves just how stupid and irresponsible this lad is. He did not step off a pavement. He jumped into the path of oncoming traffic, over a safety railing, when there was a crossing only yards away.

Do you always use the crossing when one is provided ? I know that I don't - and if that makes me stupid and irresponsible, then so be it.

As I said before, I'm not perfect. Consequently, I don't expect youngsters to be either.

=====

Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Robin T Cox - 2008/09/07 13:48

In the case of this so-called 'safety' barrier, which failed to provide safety, two cardinal principles of design were clearly not observed:

1. Human error should be designed out of the solution: there should be no room for human error to compromise safety.
2. The design should fail safe.

In designing race tracks for fast cars, we no longer seek to blame drivers for irresponsible driving when there are injuries or fatalities. And blaming people is no way to prevent such accidents in future.

Nor, in the circumstances of modern road traffic, should we expect less than safety in the design of thoroughfares where pedestrian and vehicular traffic are mixed. Otherwise such traffic should be segregated.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Clare - 2008/09/07 14:05

TLJ wrote:

Clare wrote:

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Do you always use the crossing when one is provided ? I know that I don't - and if that makes me stupid and irresponsible, then so be it.

As I said before, I'm not perfect. Consequently, I don't expect youngsters to be either.

I cross the road where I'm not supposed to certainly, but I check it is safe to do so first. There aren't always crossings either T. I also don't jump barriers. This isn't a five year old we're talking about.

Robin I think the layout of this road included all the safety bits and bobs we can put there, honestly. Railings bordering the road and a crossing controlled by traffic lights just yards away. Why is this everyone else's fault?

=====

Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Robin T Cox - 2008/09/07 14:20

Robin I think the layout of this road included all the safety bits and bobs we can put there, honestly. Railings bordering the road and a crossing controlled by traffic lights just yards away. Why is this everyone else's fault?

Plainly, Clare, the fault is not yours.:)

But would you care to estimate how fast the bus was going as it went past the boy's position? And whether, as the bus was approaching a school, that speed was safe given the likelihood that there would be children on the road (as there were moments before the boy jumped)?

Would you also care to explain what the bus was doing driving so close to the barrier, seeing as it appears to be marked as a cycle lane, and the rest of the road was clear? Had the bus been further away, it would not have hit the boy.

No, the fact is that the design of that piece of road is plainly unsafe, and fails to protect road users properly.

According to the Make Roads Safe campaign, a young person is killed every 3 minutes because of bad road design.

<http://www.makeroadssafe.org/>

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by TLJ - 2008/09/07 15:31

Clare wrote:

I cross the road where I'm not supposed to certainly, but I check it is safe to do so first. There aren't always crossings

either T. I also don't jump barriers. This isn't a five year old we're talking about.

No, it's not. It's a 14 year-old lad doing something that 14 year-olds do all the time - not being aware of everything that's around them.

(I take it that, as an adult, you've never accidentally put yourself or someone else into danger. I know I have.)

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by TLJ - 2008/09/28 13:29

Now this was deliberately running into traffic.

Lucky, lucky women.

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Re:Lucky lad !!

Posted by Brenna1508 - 2008/09/28 21:38

Lucky doesn't even begin to cover it TLJ, it was a miracle they weren't both killed. That is totally disgraceful behaviour from two adults particularly because of their indifference to the safety of so many others.

They are two people I'd have no compunction about deporting and I'd ban them from entering the UK again.

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