

# Accessible News

"making news about accessibility accessible"

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## A Joke Too Far?

**Comedian Frankie Boyle, famed for his shocking and often controversial humour, is possibly facing the biggest storm of his career after a cruel and remarkably offensive 'joke' left media personality, Katie Price, feeling nothing but anger and disgust.**

Having already identified Price's disabled son as the butt of a distasteful divorce joke, Boyle went on to suggest that Price's second marriage to cage fighter, Alex Reid, came as the result of her need for a "strong" man to prevent Harvey from sexually assaulting her.

Despite condemning Channel 4 for broadcasting the jokes, Ofcom have yet to demand a public apology. The channel even defended Boyle and the decision to air the jokes by explaining

that it was not their intention to offend a "particular community" and that no one is immune to the "absurdist satire" of Mr Boyle. They further blamed Price for the "exploitation of her children for publicity purposes," "her behaviour as a mother" and "her cavalier attitude towards relationships."

Harvey is, through no fault of his own, the son of former glamour model, reality television star and constant paparazzi favourite, Katie Price and she is, of course, partly to blame for the exposure of her child to such awful mockery.



**Continued  
Overleaf**

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Does this, however, make it acceptable to ridicule a boy too young to comprehend the meaning of Boyle's joke, let alone defend himself? It's easy to place the blame on Price but whatever you think of her as a celebrity, her capabilities as a loving, caring and protective mother are beyond doubt. Writing for the Daily Mail, Price explained how she has considered her role "in putting Harvey in the firing line for Boyles Humour" but does not, however, accept that this justifies the jokes made by Boyle. Price has always been conscious of the risks when featuring Harvey in her programmes but, in the hope that he could become a "positive role model" and raise disability awareness, Price made the decision not to hide him from the cameras. Boyle's jokes were, therefore, unnecessary, uncalled for and unjustifiable.



seek out an apology, not only from Channel 4 but from the comedian himself. In a genuine, heartfelt documentary the ever protective mother describes the day to day challenges her son faces, as well as discussing the boundaries of comedy with other mothers, comedians, charities and media corporations; ultimately raising the question: How far is too far?

Let us know your thoughts and opinions on the so called "joke" at:

<http://www.facebook.com/AccessibleNews>

Keep your eyes peeled for our next issue with a follow up story entitled "How Far Is Too Far?"

Infuriated by his hideous comments, Price has since made it her mission to

**Written By Alice Parsons**

## CYNON VALLEY CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

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**Find out more about our parent company Accessible Wales by  
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# Welsh Whisky Access Review - It's a Hard Job!



When I was given my assignment for this issue of the magazine I kicked, screamed protested but nobody would listen.... So I had to write a review on none other than the Welsh Whisky distillery at Penderyn! So here goes (hiccup)

Nestled in the footholds of the Brecon Beacons and formally part of Breconshire the picturesque town of Penderyn is not only known for its beauty and serenity but as the home of Penderyn Whisky.

Penderyn Single Malt Welsh Whisky was first launched on St David's Day, 1st March 2004, by HRH Prince Charles, to huge critical acclaim from both acknowledged whisky experts and "ordinary" consumers. The Welsh Whisky Company has already been accredited with numerous prestigious international awards for its quality and taste of the whisky and for its distinctive and stylish packaging.

In June 2008 the company opened its new visitors centre allowing people from far and wide to see the processes involved in distilling the Welsh Whisky. Since opening its doors the centre has welcomed sixty thousand visitors all keen to see what is involved in making Welsh Whisky.

I have taken the tour, the centre has flat level access and an accessible toilet. All the facilities are located on one level. The tour (guided by an extremely knowledgeable member of staff) educated me on the history of whisky making in Wales and also provides me with a view of the actual distillery which was very interesting. The tour culminated in a tasting session of the various brands available in the bar area, after this I visited the shop and was impressed with the wide range of souvenirs and products available. The shop also had flat level access and while some areas maybe tight to get to if you had a visual impairment or mobility difficulties staff members are more than happy to help reach or pass products.

Staff members are extremely well trained and provide excellent customer service, the facility has had an access review by Accessible Wales and can be found on our Accessible Companies Index. For more information contact Keith Tench (Visitor Centre Manager) on 01685 810651 or pop in.... I did! Bring on my next project I say, it's a tough job but someone has to do it. If you want us to review the access of a building get in touch.



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## 92 In 92.... A Footie Fan's Dream!

Four footie fans are undertaking a colossal challenge; to visit all 92 football grounds in 92 hours to raise money for the Downs Syndrome Association.

The challenge started on Monday August 1<sup>st</sup> at 9am at Swansea City Football club and finished at 2:15am on Friday in Cardiff. The challenge took 89hrs 15mins to complete. The team will be travelled as far north as Carlisle, as far east as Norwich, as far south as Plymouth and as far west as Swansea. The four people behind the challenge are Matt Bailey, Steven De Couto, Emma Bird and Teri Bailey. Matt, Steven and Emma will be visiting the grounds and Teri held the fort back at base.



**The Full Team**

The inspiration behind the mission is Matt's daughter, Taylor Mae. Taylor Mae was born with Downs Syndrome 18 months ago in a hospital in South Wales. Matt and his family had no idea until Taylor Mae was born that she would have Downs Syndrome. They were told about the condition by a student doctor who asked if they had noticed anything weird about their daughter. They were then given a leaflet on Downs Syndrome and asked to give it back when they were done because it was the only one the hospital had.

**This article is continued on [www.accessible-news.co.uk](http://www.accessible-news.co.uk) and on [facebook.com/AccessibleNews](https://www.facebook.com/AccessibleNews) Written By Hayleigh Brookes**

If you would like to find out more 92in92 or keep up to date with how the team are doing you can follow them on twitter @92in92challenge or visit [www.the92in92.com](http://www.the92in92.com)

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## Rhondda Cynon Taf Council – Disability Forum

The Disability Forum was set up in 2004 as a result of feedback from disabled service users during the Actions Speak Louder than Words Conference held in October 2003.

The Council has also set up two sub groups of the Disability Forum to enable us to monitor the Council's Single Equality Scheme. These are, The Awareness, Attitudes and Involvement Group and The Physical Access and Transport Group.

We discuss the barriers people face around sensory impairments, mental health conditions, mobility impairments and learning disabilities to name but a few.

We want to make the Council's services as inclusive as possible and welcome views from all disabled people in achieving this aim.

So if you have an interest in disability and wish to join the forum, please contact the Equality, Diversity & Social Justice Team on 01443 424121 or email [equality@rhondda-cynon-taf.gov.uk](mailto:equality@rhondda-cynon-taf.gov.uk)

