

and drive and looking for the positives. And choose forgiveness, especially when your parents continually fail to break their cycle of drug addiction.

This is the message of Chelsea Cameron, 18, who made headlines this week with an open letter to her addict parents thanking them for life lessons learnt during her troubled childhood.

She has managed to rise out of the deprivation of her early years to become head girl, fluent in German and successful in her exams.

Ms Cameron said that the catalyst for her breaking free from the limitations of her home life in Dundee was the unconditional support of teachers who believed in her when she couldn't.

"You may struggle to imagine the polar opposite girl I was in my first few years of secondary school and my extremely different experience of school life," she said. "Saying my behav-

"Some people may say, 'How did she change?' The answer to that is a group of influential teachers in Menzieshill High School who believed in me more than I could have ever believed in myself, teachers who didn't give up on a child and teachers who gave me innumerable chances when they most likely were fed up."

In a blog post she wrote: "A common proverb is, 'It takes a village to raise a child' and it was the wonderful little village of Menzieshill High School who raised me to be who I am today."

Ms Cameron grew up in a household where her parents, Alexander, 52, and Tammy, 37, were addicted to drugs and brought violence through their front door from fellow addicts and dealers.

"I remember very vividly someone tutting and saying to me [about school]: 'Chelsea, it's just a building!' My heart sank ... [This] was my tranquil place



Chelsea Cameron, in a selfie taken as head girl at her school in Dundee, top left, and with her parents, Alexander and Tammy, whose failings she has forgiven

from the struggles of the world, a place where people cared, believed and knew you."

In her frank letter, she detailed how she took her ten year old brother to his first day of school because her mother was incapable through drugs.

Yet for all the neglect she experienced, she said that the ability to learn

to forgive her parents was the key to making a success of her life. "There are lots of negative things that come into people's lives, possibly not through their own making, and what I really hope to do with sharing the letter was to allow people to know they can choose positivity, no matter the circumstances they are in — choose to have joy in their

I have seen lots of situations where my parents have been in the street fighting with others and other situations where violence has been brought to our home."

The final lines of her open letter betray the pain she carries at not having parents who supported her through her childhood journey, but also the extraordinary strength that she has developed to forgive. "I hope one day that you'll wake up and realise there is so much more the world has to offer you guys and when that day comes, please come to find me so we can enjoy life together," she wrote.

"I'll show you some nice restaurants I like to go to and if you're lucky I might take you to Germany one day. Until then, I'll dream of what my life would be like with parents to enjoy it with.

"Thanks for everything, I owe you. Take care, much love. Chelsea."

## Camera takes a perfect shot in the dark

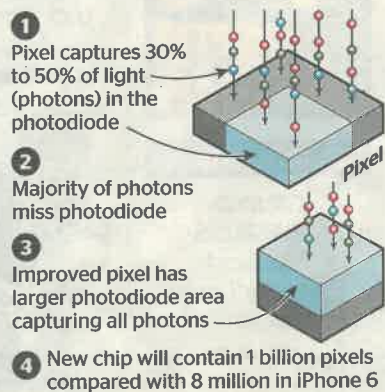
Oliver Moody Science Correspondent

The world's first "perfect" digital camera, capable of recording each individual particle of light, is being developed by American researchers.

The device, which will be able to capture detailed images at night-time and produce photographs far more detailed than the human eye can register, is expected to be available to scientists in five years and to go on sale to the general public in a decade.

It will be about 100 times more powerful than the camera in the latest iPhone, and dozens of times sharper than the best commercial models available, according to Eric Fossum, professor of engineering at Dartmouth College, who is leading the work.

Light is made up of units of energy called photons. Today's digital cameras have limited scope because they miss more than half of these particles. Pro-



essor Fossum invented the technology that powers the process, now in every smartphone, in 1993. His complementary metal-oxide-semiconductor (CMOS) chips are electric chessboards made up of millions of microscopic rectangles, known as picture elements, or

pixels. Each pixel registers photons and converts them into an electrical signal, which becomes the image. The problem is that the light-sensitive part of a pixel, the photodiode, is so thin that up to 70 per cent of the photons simply sail through without a trace. Professor Fossum is working on a CMOS chip with a billion pixels that can each detect single photons at room temperature, pushing the digital camera about as far as the laws of physics will permit.

Speaking as he was announced as one of four winners of the 2017 Queen Elizabeth prize for engineering, his profession's answer to the Nobel prize, Professor Fossum said the device could come closer to reality than the human eye and pick up minute scraps of light in the dark. Although the camera will be used mainly by scientists such as astronomers at first, he predicted that the technology would soon make it easier to take pictures in poorly lit places.

## Labour and Brexit blamed for rise in antisemitism

Fariha Karim

Allegations of antisemitism in the Labour Party helped to fuel the record number of hate incidents against Jews last year, a charity has suggested.

The Community Services Trust, which monitors antisemitism, said that last year it recorded 1,309 incidents against the Jewish community, the most since its records began in 1984.

There were 135 incidents in May, the most for one month. "One possible explanation for this might be that, at the end of April, antisemitism became a national political and media story in the UK, following the suspension by the Labour Party of Naz Shah MP and Ken Livingstone for alleged antisemitism," the charity said in its Antisemitic Incidents report, adding that some

incidents included references to Labour. The charity said, however, that an increase in racism after the EU referendum may have contributed to the overall rise. It recorded 125 incidents in July, compared with 87 in July 2015.

The previous record of 1,182 incidents came in 2014 and was attributed to the Israeli military operation in Gaza.

"Abusive behaviour", verbal and written, was the most common form of incident. There were 107 assaults and 81 desecrations. In one incident MPs were sent an email that said "the Jews are laughing all the way to the bank, as they watch the world destroy each other".

Tom Watson, deputy Labour leader, said: "The findings of this report are extremely distressing. It's vital that we continue to highlight the abuse Jewish people are experiencing."