

Too trifling for the law

SIR – When Alma Harding reprovved a boy with rolled-up papers (report, 25 February) it was a trifling matter, as the magistrates showed by giving her an absolute discharge.

They should instead have acquitted her under the rule that the law pays no attention to trifles – *de minimis non curat lex*. It is not widely known that this rule applies in such cases.

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