



## Camelot reborn

### Can Joe revive Kennedy dynasty?

World 8



## Grammy glory

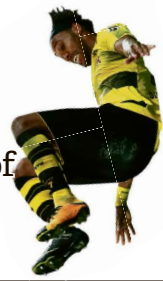
### Joy of six for Bruno Mars

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## Closing in

### Arsenal on brink of Aubameyang deal

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# Cabinet clears way for vote on abortion

## Coveney concern at unrestricted terminations up to 12th week

Daniel McConnell, Fiachra O'Connell, and Juno McEnroe

Tánaiste Simon Coveney and other ministers expressed deep concerns as to the proposed legalising of abortions up to the 12th week of pregnancy during a four-hour Cabinet meeting.

The Government agreed to hold a referendum on the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution that will ask people to repeal article 40.3.3 and replace it with a provision to enable the Oireachtas to legislate for abortion.

"Friday, May 25, is seen as the most like day for polling. "We already have abortion in Ireland but it is unsafe and unlawful... we can no longer export our problems," said Taoiseach Leo Varadkar after the meeting.

Mr Varadkar said he supports the proposal being put and also has moved in his own view and said he supports the recommendation to permit abortions in all cases up to 12 weeks.

"The people will be asked that to approve a referendum may be made to regulate the termination of pregnancy, the Taoiseach said.

He said he will advocate for a Yes vote, saying his position on abortion has changed. He said that if the referendum is passed, abortion in Ireland will become "legal, safe, and rare."

In relation to the 12 weeks, people will have to make up their own minds based on the evidence," he said.

After an four-hour meeting, the Cabinet formally agreed to allow Minister for Health Simon Harris to draft a referendum bill to pave the way for a public vote in May or June.

Mr Harris will also bring forward a general scheme of a bill to allow for abortions up to 12 weeks but the finalised text will not be made known until after the referendum.

Mr Varadkar said abortions after 12 weeks of gestation will only occur in rare circumstances, such as fatal foetal abnormalities and where there is a threat to the health or life of the mother.

At Cabinet, Mr Coveney told colleagues he can not support recommendation of

abortion for 12 weeks without restriction. However, he will support repeal and all other committee recommendations. He is understood to have told last night's lengthy Cabinet meeting that while he is broadly in favour of liberalising Ireland's abortion laws he feels the proposed 12-week law goes too far.

Speaking after the meeting, Mr Coveney said: "The status quo of how women are treated in crisis pregnancy cannot remain. I am united with my Cabinet colleagues in agreeing to repeal the 8th amendment and allow enabling legislation. While there are differing viewpoints on the content of that legislation, particularly on 12 weeks access unrestricted, that is a matter for the Oireachtas to now debate. My views are clear on that and I expressed them at Cabinet."

At Cabinet, Children's Minister Katherine Zappone and Transport Minister Shane Ross queried the need for replacing the Eighth Amendment but said they were happy to accept the legal advice from the Attorney General Seamus Wolfe.

Labour leader Brendan Howlin welcomed the decision to proceed with referendum but has said Government needs to provide clear rationale for the departure from the recommendation of the Oireachtas Committee.

Meanwhile, wards of court are to be abolished and the rights of the disabled are to be greatly enhanced as the Government today is set to approve ratification of the United Nations Convention on disabilities.

Mr Coveney is to bring a memorandum, seen by the *Irish Examiner*, seeking Government approval to sign up to the Convention.

Ireland is the only outstanding EU country to comply with the Convention which aims to protect and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities.

Independent Alliance Disability Minister Finian McGrath, who sits at Cabinet, has been seeking Government support for this measure since entering office.

News: 4 Analysis: 11

## Drive-through window



The scene where a van crashed through the kitchen window of pensioner Annie Burrell's home outside Waringstown, Co Down. SEE: Page 6

Picture: Liam McBurney

# Over 30 sailors ask to quit navy in 'unprecedented' exodus

Sean O'Riordan Defence Correspondent

More than 30 members of the naval service have asked to apply for discharge from the force in the past month, which has been described as "unprecedented" and "worrying" by their representative organisation.

PdForra, which represents enlisted members of the Defence Forces, said it is concerned at the "wealth of experience" being lost at one end of the scale and the numbers of younger personnel who are jumping ship

only a couple of years into their career.

PdForra president Mark Keane said only a couple of the 33 who had so far sought discharge in the past month were eligible for retirement this year.

Mr Keane said seasoned petty officers and leading seaman with a wealth of experience were among those who were seeking to leave the service and that this would have "a serious effect on the level of corporate knowledge".

In addition, he said around half looking to bail out were able seamen who

had only served a few years.

He said he had no doubt that poor pay and conditions experienced by members of the Defence Forces, allied to better opportunities in the private sector, were fuelling the exodus.

"Last year, there were just over 100 discharges in total from the Naval Service, with the vast majority leaving before they were due to retire," said Mr Keane. "So far this year, we have seen more than one a day looking at that option."

Mr Keane said he and his colleagues were "worried" that trend could continue if

nothing is done to address the issue of retention.

He pointed out that it is six months since the University of Limerick climate survey on attitudes in the Defence Forces was published.

The damning report, which was exclusively revealed by the *Irish Examiner*, found poor pay, lack of expertise, exhaustion, and "Hotel Rwanda"-style barracks were the cause of a major exodus of personnel. The Wellbeing in the Defence Forces Climate Survey, carried out in 2015, also highlighted significant problems.

While recruitment had been stepped up across the army, naval service, and air corps, Mr Keane said the scale of departures meant "we're running just to keep still".

"Military life is robust and there needs to be proper pay to reflect that," he said. "Natural wastage will occur in any type of job, but why should such experienced people be going? Former comrades who have left to work in the private sector are telling their serving colleagues there's a better life outside."

Mr Keane said he knew of

local companies who were only too willing to recruit ex-naval service personnel as they were reliable, and he is concerned that departures will put increased workloads on those who remain.

"This will lead to a change in work/life balance for those who are left," he said. Mr Keane said as the economy continues to improve it will also make it harder to find young men and women to join the ranks of the Defence Forces unless their pay and conditions are brought up to the standards which can be found in the private sector.

# Gardaí vow to 'dismantle' Kinahan crime cartel

Cormac O'Keefe Security Correspondent

Key players in the Kinahan crime cartel will be brought before the courts in the near future, Dublin's top garda has said.

Assistant commissioner for the Dublin Metropolitan Region, Pat Leahy, said an Garda Síochána would "dismantle" the cartel, saying that no other result was "conceivable".

He was speaking after gardaí secured their first conviction in relation to the estimated 14 murders linked to the so-called Kinahan-Hutch feud — all but two of them at the hands of the cartel.

Eamonn Cumberton, aged 30, from Mountjoy St in Dublin's north inner city, had pleaded not guilty at the Special Criminal Court to the murder of Michael Barr in the Sunset House pub, in the north inner city, on April 25, 2016.

Mr Leahy said it was not just footsoldiers rapping a woman on a Sunset House pub, in the north inner city, who were being prosecuted.

"We talked about dismantling this organisation and we will dismantle this organisation — there is no other outcome conceivable in relation to this," he said. "Some of the people we are looking at will be before the courts in the near future and are not mere footsoldiers — they are key



Michael Barr, 35, was shot dead in Sunset House Pub on North Strand, Dublin, in April 2016.

players in this organisation."

Mr Leahy said the feud was not over. "We have to keep focused," he said. "We have to keep the resources in place and we will pursue it to the nth degree."

He said families and communities, particularly in the north inner city, have suffered and he urged young men at risk of getting sucked in to turn their backs on it.

"Please do not get involved, even on the periphery of this feud," said Mr Leahy. "The minute you get involved you become a liability to these people and at some stage they will start looking at these liabilities and visit even more unhappiness on communities and families."

News: 17

## Man cleared of rape on tour bus after Derulo show

Sarah-Jane Murphy

A judge has directed a jury to acquit a second man accused of raping a woman on a tour bus after a Jason Derulo concert.

On day 12 of the trial, Mr Justice Paul Butler told the jury at the Central Criminal Court that although he was very reluctant to withdraw the case from them, it was necessary as a matter of law. He said that while the

investigation was handled very well overall, the failure to test the neck of the accused man for DNA left a real danger of an unfair trial. The jury heard the 35-year-old man, who denied raping the woman in June 2014, told gardaí the complainant had kissed him on the right side of his neck. He said he believed her saliva would be there, and asked them to test for it. During her evidence in the trial, the

woman repeatedly denied that she had kissed the man.

The man had pleaded not guilty at the Central Criminal Court to rape, oral rape, sexual assault, and false imprisonment of the then 19-year-old woman. The offences allegedly occurred in a vehicle at a location in Cork City on June 27, 2014.

The direction to the jury to acquit the man on all charges ends the trial. News: 2

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**News**  
An historian who has pleaded guilty to murdering another of these in her own home told gardaí she was paid a relatively small sum to carry out the brutal crime. **Page 7**

**Life/Style**  
In 'My War on Drugs: True Lives', a former addict looks at the degradation of poor communities and what drug addicts suffered in the Celtic Tiger era. **Page 13**

**inside**  
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Anger at estate takeover delays

Residents who saved an unfinished holiday village from becoming a derelict ghost estate have criticised delays in taking the estate in charge. **Page 5**



World ..... 8&9

Volkswagen's supervisory board called for an immediate inquiry into who ordered scientific tests in which monkeys were exposed to toxic fumes. **Page 9**

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Bearing witness through art

Brian Maguire returned from Aleppo intent on painting the reality of what he'd seen in the war-torn Syrian city.



Business ..... 14-16

Still smarting from last year's record €2.4bn penalty, Google must first report to the EU on how it has met a strict demand from competition regulators. **Page 15**

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# Jury told to acquit rape accused

Sarah-Jane Murphy

A judge has directed a jury to acquit a second man accused of raping a woman on a tour bus after a Jason Derulo concert.

On day 12 of the trial, Mr Justice Paul Butler told the jury at the Central Criminal Court that although he was very reluctant to withdraw the case from them, it was necessary as a matter of law.

He told them that while the investigation was handled very well overall, the failure to test the neck of the accused man for DNA left a very real danger of an unfair trial.

The jury heard the 35-year-old man, who denied raping the then 19-year-old woman in June 2014, told gardai the complainant had kissed him on the right side

of his neck. He said he believed her saliva would be there, and asked them to test for it.

During her evidence in the trial, the woman repeatedly denied she had kissed the man.

The man, who cannot be named for legal reasons, had pleaded not guilty at the Central Criminal Court to rape, oral rape, sexual assault, and false imprisonment of the woman.

The offences allegedly occurred in a vehicle at an unknown location in Cork City on June 27, 2014.

Mr Derulo was not charged with any offence in relation to these events. The direction to the jury to acquit the man on all charges ends the trial.

Last Wednesday, Timothy O'Leary, prosecuting, told the jury that the DPP was

dropping all charges against a 44-year-old co-accused due to insufficient evidence.

This followed a separate ruling by Mr Justice Butler which prevented the prosecution from calling certain evidence in relation to this defendant.

Mr Justice Butler told the jury yesterday that last week he ruled that the man's detention was unlawful.

The complainant in this case alleged that a man, identified as "cap guy", blocked her from getting off the tour bus.

She claims he brought her upstairs, where he raped her orally and vaginally while they were "half in, half out of a bunk bed."

She claims another, larger man came over at one point and also raped her. The woman said she was terrified

and asked them to stop, but they did not. She said she managed to make her escape after a third man came over and said: "I'm next."

It was the prosecution case that "cap guy" was the 35-year-old accused and the larger man was the 44-year-old accused. Both men denied all charges.

Lawyers for the 35-year-old accused told the jury that their client accepted he had sex with the complainant, and accepted she performed oral sex on him, but did not accept consent was absent.

Mr Justice Butler told the jury that his ruling "has no bearing on the credibility of the complainant in this case or anyone's credibility."

"I, as a judge, have only done this maybe three or four times in 18 years," he said. "But it is a matter of law

to ensure that the accused got a fair trial."

In the absence of the jury, Sean Guerin, defending, submitted the complainant's evidence was she had not kissed the accused and that she would have been kissing him if she wanted to have sex.

"Proof of kissing goes directly to the question of consent in this case," said Mr Guerin.

He said his client said the woman had kissed him on the neck and invited gardai to swab his neck for saliva.

This was not done. Mr Justice Butler said if it were shown that kissing, as alleged by the accused, took place, it would be at the very least out of the mind of a jury.

He said a swab of the defendant's neck could have been tested against the

DNA of the complainant.

"We don't know the answer to that question. It resulted had this test been carried out, but without it there is a very real danger that the accused would have been subjected to an unfair trial."

Mr Justice Butler said that while he had the benefit of hindsight, investigating gardai did not have this advantage and that, still, their investigation had been "handled very well indeed."

He said he was, therefore, withdrawing the decision from the jury as a matter of law and directed them to find the defendant not guilty by direction of the trial judge.

He excused the 10 men and two women from jury service for a period of ten years.



Ireland and Ulster rugby player Paddy Jackson arrives at Belfast Crown Court.

Ireland and Ulster rugby player Stuart Olding.

Rory Harrison is accused of perverting the course of justice.

Blane McIlroy is accused of exposure in connection with the incident.

## Garda accepts his attacker's apology

Liam Heylin

A garda who was punched to the ground in a violent incident has accepted an apology from the attacker, who was yesterday jailed for nine months.

Ran Shanahan, with addresses at Pine Walk, Muskerrey Estate, Ballincollig, and Dromacullen, Beal Na Morrive, pleaded guilty to a charge of assault causing harm, and a variety of public order charges arising from two incidents last summer.

Judge Olann Kelleher said: "He viciously assaulted Garda Jonathan O'Sullivan. I have read the victim impact statement. It affected this young garda and his family, causing them distress. I note that the guard accepts Mr Shanahan's apology. I will take it into consideration."

"It was a very serious matter. It was a vicious assault." The judge backdated the sentence to January 8, when Shanahan went into custody. Insp Roman Kennelly said that, on July 6, 2017, gardai were alerted to a large group of people drinking on a green in Inishmore, Ballinacorney. "Mr Shanahan was asleep on the green area and when he was awoken it was apparently taken into consideration. He was very volatile when he became very volatile when he was attempting to leave the area," he said.

He shouted abuse at gardai, violently resisted arrest, and punched at Garda O'Sullivan and knocked him down. Shanahan pleaded guilty to being drunk and a danger, obstructing a garda, abusive behaviour, obstruction, and assault causing harm.

In a separate incident on June 4, Shanahan was with a group of youths refused entry to a nightclub. While guardai were arresting two of the group, Shanahan interfered, being abusive and aggressive. He pleaded guilty to being drunk and a danger, obstructing a garda, abusive behaviour, and obstructing Garda Mary Horgan.

## sudoku

**basic**

1	3	8	2	5	6	4	9	7
7	4	2	9	5	6	8		
5	6	9	8	4	7	3	2	1
8	1	7	9	2	4	6	3	5
3	9	6	7	1	5	2	8	4
2	5	4	6	3	8	7	1	9
4	2	1	5	6	9	8	7	
7	6	1	8	3	9	4	2	
9	8	3	4	7	2	1	5	6
6	7	5	1	9	3	2	8	4

**HOW TO PLAY**  
Fill in the grid, ensuring that each column and row, and every 3x3 box, contains the numbers 1-9

**intermediate**

2	5	1	7	3	6	4	8	9
6	3	4	9	2	8	1	7	5
9	8	7	5	4	1	3	2	6
5	6	3	8	9	4	7	1	2
7	2	8	3	1	5	6	9	4
1	2	8	3	1	5	6	9	4
3	1	5	6	8	2	9	4	7
8	9	2	4	7	3	5	6	1
6	7	1	5	9	3	2	8	4
4	7	6	1	5	9	3	2	8

**advanced**

9	5	8	2	6	4	3	7	1
6	3	2	5	1	7	4	9	8
1	4	7	9	8	3	5	6	2
4	8	3	1	5	6	9	2	7
7	1	5	4	9	2	5	6	3
2	6	9	7	3	8	1	4	5
8	7	6	3	4	5	2	1	9
5	2	1	6	7	9	8	3	4
3	9	4	8	2	1	7	5	6
3	9	4	8	2	1	7	5	6

**BASIC**

	6	8	1	4	5
1	8	3	9	4	6
	2	5	6	3	
6	3	2	5	9	6
4	8	3	2	4	1
	7	9	5	4	
9	4	6	8	5	7
4	5	3	1	9	

**INTERMEDIATE**

	3	9	7	8	6	7	4
				3			5
				9			4
1				4			
4				8			
				4	5	2	1
				9	7	2	

**ADVANCED**

		9		7	
3	4		5	9	
5			4		9
	5				2
7	9		8		
6		7		1	
				5	1
				2	

## 'Keep open mind' in rugby rape trial

Lesley-Anne McKeown

A jury has been sworn in for the rape trial of two Ireland and Ulster rugby players.

Stuart Olding, 24, and Paddy Jackson, 26, are accused of raping the same woman at a property in south Belfast in June 2016.

Judge Patricia Smyth told the nine men and three women that the case would begin at Belfast Crown Court tomorrow and last for five weeks.

Addressing the jurors, Judge Smyth told them to

keep an open mind until all the evidence in the case had been presented.

She said: "You are the only people who will see all the witnesses and hear all the evidence."

Both Mr Olding, of Ardleen St in Belfast, and Mr Jackson, from Oakleigh Park, also in the city, strenuously deny the charges.

Mr Jackson also denies a further charge of sexual assault.

Two other men have also been returned for trial on charges connected with the

alleged incident on June 28, 2016.

Blane McIlroy, 26, from Royal Lodge Rd, Ballydo-laghan, Belfast, is accused of one count of exposure.

Rory Harrison, 25, from Manse Rd, Belfast, is charged with perverting the course of justice and withholding information.

All four have pleaded not guilty and are on bail.

The high-profile case is expected to run until early March.

Addressing the jury to listen carefully to all counsel in

the case, Judge Smyth said: "Keep your minds open until the very end. Your views may well change as evidence unfolds."

"Please do not discuss evidence until you have heard all of that."

The judge also warned the members of the jury they were not to conduct any research into individuals or anything else to do with the trial.

She said: "It would be wrong and it would be in breach of your oath or affirmation if you do."

Fly-half Mr Jackson has been capped for Ireland 25 times and centre Mr Olding has played four times. They are also established stars for Ulster Rugby.

The jury has been released until today.

All four defendants, dressed in dark suits, white shirts, and ties, sat beside each other in the dock yesterday and listened to the proceedings.

Ulster and Ireland teammate Craig Gilroy was in the public gallery for the hearing.

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**WEATHERWATCH**

**NOON**

A largely dry morning with cloud around but also some spells of sunshine at times. Cloud will build as light rain and drizzle pushes in from the north-west later. By evening, there will be some spells of rain and then showers. There will be a moderate westerly wind. Max temp 7-10C (45-50F).

**TONIGHT**

It will be an unsettled and breezy night with some clear spells but also a scattering of showers, these may merge to form more general rain across southern parts. Many of the showers will be wintry in nature with a slim chance of lightning. Brisk south-westerly winds. Min temp 0-3C (32-37F).

**EUROPE TODAY**

Sunny spells across much of Spain, Portugal and southern France. However, increased cloud and patchy rain will affect southern parts of Portugal and the far south-west of Spain. Germany and the Low Countries will have variable cloud and some brightness. Dry and sunny for the eastern Mediterranean.

**TOMORROW**

A mixture of sunny intervals, a fair amount of cloud and scattered showers, some of which may be heavy with a risk of hail and the odd royal of thunder. The showers will be most numerous after midday. An increasingly windy day with gales in the far west for a time. Max temp 5-8C (41-46F).

**EUROPE OUTLOOK**

Wet and windy for northern France, the Low Countries and Germany on Wednesday. Variable cloud and showers for southern Spain and Portugal. Increasingly unsettled for central and southern Europe through the rest of the week, becoming colder as it does so with periods of rain, sleet and snow.

**HIGH TIDES TODAY**

Galway	time	height	time	height
	03:48	5.2m	16:37	5.2m
Limerick	05:24	6.0m	17:56	6.0m
Cobh	04:05	4.0m	16:33	4.0m
Waterford	04:54	4.6m	17:24	4.6m
Dublin	10:24	4.1m	22:51	4.1m
Belfast	09:52	3.5m	22:22	3.5m

**SUN AND MOON TODAY**

ris	sets	ris	sets		
Sun.....	08:12	17:04	Moon.....	15:55	07:16

**MOON PHASE**

Full Moon  
31 January

**EXTREMES**

Warmest	Riches Point	11C (52F)
Cooldest	Altachree	4C (39F)
Wettest	Mullingar	0.51 inches

**ATLANTIC SITUATION:** High T will be stationary near the Azores. Low A will track east. Low B will fill.

Information provided by MeteoGroup

# Mars knocks the competition for six

**Sam Blewett**  
Bruno Mars won all six of the Grammy awards he was nominated for including record of the year in a golden night in New York.  
But Jay-Z, who entered the show leading the way with eight nominations, walked away empty-handed, being overshadowed by his younger contemporary Kendrick Lamar who won five.

The show was said to be the most diverse in the Grammy's 60-year history, but only one woman took home an award on her sole merit during the televised show, with Alessia Cara winning best new artist.

The ceremony saw attention on the women's movement continued with powerful words and white roses. Musicians wore the flower in a showing of solidarity with the #MeToo harassment movement which has been the focus of Hollywood ceremonies, and empowering speeches came from stars including Janelle Monae.

Mars won all three top honours, with *24K Magic* taking record and album of the year and "That's What I Like" winning song of the year.  
He praised music's ability to bring diverse groups of people together as he accepted the final award of the night.  
Host James Corden said the show had the "most diverse group of nominees" in Grammy history, which rapper and music mogul Jay-Z also celebrated on-line.  
Lamar beat Jay-Z to best rap performance and best rap song with *Humble* and best rap album with *Damn*. Lamar paid tribute to the veteran for his influence on the genre, and added: "Jay for president."  
Following Adele's massive success last year, it was largely a night of disappointment for British nominees but absentee Ed Sheeran did win best pop vocal album with *Divide* and solo performance with "Shape of You".



Bruno Mars and Cardi B perform 'Finesse' at the 60th annual Grammy Awards at Madison Square Garden on Sunday in New York. Pictures: AP



Bryson Tiller and Rihanna perform 'Wild Thoughts' at the 60th annual Grammy Awards at Madison Square Garden.



Miley Cyrus in the press room at the Grammy Awards in New York. Picture: AP

Grammy Awards 2018	
Album of the Year: <i>24K Magic</i> , Bruno Mars	
Record of the Year: <i>24K Magic</i> , Bruno Mars	
Song of the Year: <i>That's What I Like</i> , Bruno Mars	
New Artist: <i>Alessia Cara</i>	
Pop Vocal Album: <i>(Divide)</i> , Ed Sheeran	
Country Album: <i>From a Room: Volume 1</i> , Chris Stapleton	
Rap Album: <i>Damn</i> , Kendrick Lamar	
R&B Album: <i>24K Magic</i> , Bruno Mars	
Blues Album: <i>Blue &amp; Lonesome</i> , The Rolling Stones	
Rock Album: <i>A Deeper Understanding</i> , The War on Drugs	
Rock Song: <i>Run</i> , Foo Fighters	
Picture: Associated Press	



The Edge, left, and Bono, right, of U2, perform with Kendrick Lamar, at the awards event.



Hillary Clinton on screen reading an excerpt from 'Fire and Fury' during a skit at the event.



Recording artist Alessia Cara, winner of the Best New Artist award, at the Grammys. Picture: Getty

fect by sexual harassment.  
"It's not just going out in Hollywood, it's not just going in our Washington it's right here in our industry as well," she said.  
"Just as we have the power to shape culture, we also have the power to undo the culture that does not serve us well."

But while women featured heavily in sentiment and performances, Alessia Cara was the only female to win an award during the televised show on her own merit, with Rihanna featuring on Lamar's winning track 'Loyalty'.  
Cara said she was wearing a white rose to show support

to women not just in the entertainment industry.  
"Things are uneven and unequal and they need to be talked about and they need to be changed," she said backstage after winning her award.  
Lady Gaga, performing all night, also gave a nod to the celebrity-backed anti-harassment initiative Time's Up between songs.  
Cuban-American singer Camila Cabello called for people to continue fighting for protection for 1.6m young migrants known as Dreamers whose place in America was threatened by Donald Trump's proposal to scrap the Obama-

era scheme.  
"Just like dreams, these kids can't be forgotten and are worth fighting for," she said.  
Country singer Maren Morris dedicated a performance to victims of the bombing at the Ariana Grande concert at Manchester Arena as well as those who were killed in the massacre at the Las Vegas festival where Morris had performed.  
Awards were also posthumously given to Leonard Cohen, for best rock performance, and Carrie Fisher, for best spoken word album with her reading of her memoir *The Princess Diarist*.

## Hotel sunbeds bookable in advance for €25

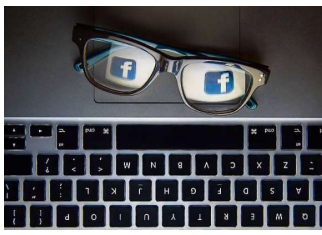
**Neil Lancefield**  
Holidaymakers can now reserve numerous complaints from having to dash daily to the pool to put a towel down.  
Thomas Cook customers willing to pay €25 will be able to book a specific lounger for their entire stay.  
This is the UK's first package holiday company to provide such a service.  
Travel firms receive numerous complaints from customers unable to use hotel sunbeds reserved by people leaving towels, books, and other belongings on them.  
A number of videos have been posted online, in recent months, showing desperate holidaymakers waiting for hotel pools to open in the early hours of the morning, so they can bag a sunbed.  
Thomas Cook believes its new service will prove popular with families who want to spend more time together in their preferred location. It commissioned 1,500 working parents and found that three out of four (74%) feel they "lack quality time with their children" during an average weekday. Half (50%) of those surveyed said holidays are their top spending priority in 2018.

Thomas Cook's UK managing director, Chris Mottershead, said: "Traditional package holidays are a thing of the past. Holidaymakers today want to personalise their package, mixing and matching the elements that best-fit their needs and lifestyle."  
"We're excited about the opportunity with Choose Your Favourite Sunbed, particularly among families that want to secure a number of beds together in a specific spot."

Sunbeds will be displayed on a map, featuring a compass to help people work out whether certain areas will be in the sun or shade at different times of the day.  
Only a proportion of a hotel's sunbeds will be bookable, in a bid to ensure there are still enough sunbeds for those who do not want to pay the premium.  
The scheme is being trialled in three hotels from the end of next month, and will be available in 30 hotels this summer.

## Facebook to help users take control of their personal information

**Julia Fioretti**  
Facebook said it is publishing its privacy principles for the first time and rolling out educational videos to help users control who has access to their information, as it prepares for the start of a tough new EU data protection law.  
The videos will show users how to manage the data that Facebook uses to show them ads, how to delete old posts, and what happens to the data when they delete their account, Erin Egan, chief privacy officer at Facebook, said in a blog post.  
Facebook, which has more than 2bn users, said it had never before published the principles, which are its rules on how the company handles users' information.  
The announcements are a sign of its efforts to get ready ahead of the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which enters into force on May 25, marking the biggest overhaul of personal data privacy rules since the birth of the internet.



The company, which has 2bn users, is preparing for the EU's General Data Protection Regulation. Picture: Dominic Lipinski/PA

Under GDPR, companies will be required to report data breaches within 72 hours, as well as to allow customers to export their data.  
Facebook's privacy principles, which are separate from the user terms and conditions that are agreed when someone opens an account, range from giving

choices when it comes to how your data is used," Egan wrote.  
Also among the company's privacy principles are helping users understand how their data is used, keeping that information secure, constantly improving new controls, and being accountable to regulators.  
"We put products through rigorous data security testing. We also meet with regulators, legislators and privacy experts around the world to get input on our data practices and policies," the blog post said.  
The company's chief operating officer Sheryl Sandberg announced last week that Facebook would be creating a new privacy centre which would put the social network's key privacy settings in one place.  
The GDPR drastically increases the level of fines for companies found to be in breach of data protection law, potentially rising as high as 4% of global annual turnover or €20m, whichever is higher.

## Prayers for baby amid Kerry inquiry

**Anne Lucey**  
A prayer was offered at weekend Masses in Caheriveen for the infant John and for his family, amid a new inquiry into what was a traumatic event in a South Kerry community over 30 years ago.  
The body, a number of days old, was found on Blue Flag beach, White Strand, on April 14, 1984.  
The baby had been stabbed multiple times. Two weeks ago, gardai announced a murder inquiry had been opened.  
Irish priest Fr Larry Kelly led the Prayers of the Faithful at Saturday evening and Sunday Masses in the Daniel O'Connell Memorial Church following the psalm which, the priest said, invited people "to soften our hearts."  
"We come now in confidence to the Lord whose



The grave of Baby John in the Holy Cross Cemetery, Caheriveen, Co Kerry. Picture: Dan Linehan

words and actions inspire change," Fr Kelly said, introducing the prayers for compassion in the community, for young people and Catholic Schools' week.  
A mention for Baby John included a request for "all

who offer care" at this time: "For Baby John, that he may be eternally enfolded in God's light."  
"For his family, and all who offer care at this time, may they know God's tenderness and closeness by our words and actions," the prayer said.  
The stabbing of the baby, known as the Kerry Baby, shocked a nation and the infant was named "John" by undertaker Tom Courname who also tended to his grave over the years. The grave was badly vandalised in July 2004.  
Meanwhile, a new inquiry, based in an incident room in Caheriveen Garda Station, is now entering its third week and involves officers from the Dublin based Cold Case or Serious Crime Review Team, along with experienced detectives from the Kerry Division.  
It is expected a further

appeal for information will shortly be issued.  
The team has in its possession the original Garda logbook of the investigation, a Garda source confirmed. The logbook and case notes indicated "black magic" had also been considered and later discounted, at the time, as a likely reason for the death, according to evidence in a previous tribunal. The logbook also details the names of those interviewed and those to be reinterviewed in the locality.  
A number of follow-up interviews, at the time, never took place as the concentration had shifted to Abbeydorney and Tralee, and Joanne Hayes.  
In recent weeks, senior gardai and the government have issued apologies to Joanne Hayes, the North Kerry woman wrongly suspected of being the infant's mother.

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# Cabinet agrees to repeal 8th and replace wording

**Daniel McConnell**  
Political Editor

The Government has agreed that the Eighth Amendment should be repealed and replaced with new text in the Constitution to allow the Oireachtas to legislate on abortion laws.

Based on legal advice from the Attorney General, Seamus Woulfe, the Cabinet decided to differ with the Oireachtas Committee on the Eighth Amendment, which called for a simple repeal.

The 1983 amendment guarantees the equal right to life of a mother and her unborn child.

The Cabinet met to formally agree its position, but Health Minister Simon Harris was clear in his support for repealing the amendment and calling for allowing the Oireachtas in all cases up to 12 weeks.

Mr Harris has been working with officials in his department and the attorney general on the wording of the referendum, due to be formally published at the beginning of March.

Mr Harris outlined the two options to his colleagues.

The first was to ask voters whether or not to repeal the Eighth Amendment.

On legal advice, it is expected he will suggest to colleagues that, along with repealing the amendment, new wording should be added to the Constitution explicitly stating that the Oireachtas legislate on such issues.

Mr Harris said that, whatever the Cabinet agrees, the people will be asked to repeal the Eighth Amendment in full.

He said if ministers agree to add wording into the Constitution to explicitly state that the Oireachtas should legislate in this area, it would be done so on legal advice.

Mr Woulfe briefed the Cabinet on this issue at the meeting, setting out why the repeal and replace option was preferable.

He advised against a straightforward repeal, known as repeal simpliciter, and insisted an enabling provision be inserted into the Constitution in the event of a repeal.

The provision, which would state that the Oireachtas has the power to legislate for abortion, is necessary because it would provide greater legal certainty and would minimise the risk of a successful legal challenge, said Mr Woulfe.

Mr Harris also outlined his approach to the draft legislation that the Government plans to introduce if the referendum is passed.

Mr Harris previously told ministers he was preparing this draft legislation in line with the Oireachtas committee's proposal to allow termination up to 12 weeks.

While Taoiseach Leo Varadkar and his ministers have collectively agreed to hold a referendum, each will be free to campaign on either side of the argument.

Mr Varadkar is backing repeal and is also supportive of the 12-week unrestricted abortion recommendation.

Speaking ahead of the meeting, Mr Harris said: "I would also ask the Government to give me permission to go ahead with a draft of the legislation that we have put in place if the people of Ireland said yes. I'll be asking for the Government to come to an agreed approach in relation to that."

Mr Brassil was elected on the third count at convention.

**Brassil to contest general election**

Sitting Fianna Fáil TD for Kerry John Brassil has been selected at convention to contest the next general election. A second candidate is to be added by party headquarters in March. More than 1,000 members showed up — around 80% of the total membership — the vast majority of whom are based in the former Kerry North constituency.

Mr Brassil received 465 first preference votes and was elected on the third count when he exceeded the quota of 506. In second place was the Tralee municipal councillor and former TD Tom McIlillstrim with 256.

# Abortions to become 'safe, legal, and rare'

Referendum legislation likely to be ready by early March

**Juno McEnroe**  
Political Correspondent

Taoiseach Leo Varadkar has announced a referendum on abortion will take place in late May and that, if it is passed along with follow-up legislation, terminations will become "safe, legal, and rare".

Cabinet has agreed to hold the referendum in late May and to ask voters whether or not to repeal the Eighth Amendment, which protects the life of the unborn.

Mr Varadkar said the issue is not "black and white", that the current regime stigmatised people, and the process being proposed would "remove the effective ban" on abortions.

The draft wording being considered for the landmark vote will ask voters whether they want to delete article 43.3 of the Constitution and back a clause that will say "provision may be made by law for the regulation of the termination of pregnancy."

Mr Varadkar said he would brief leaders of the opposition last night on the attorney general's advice for Cabinet on the matter while a summary of this will also be published today.

The Taoiseach said it would be a difficult decision for the Irish people to make, that there was a need for respectful debate and that his views had evolved.

Around 2,000 women each year took abortion pills, he said, and this was sure to result in another tragedy and a woman losing her life.

Mr Varadkar said that the follow-up legislation, if voters repeal the Eighth Amendment, would be published and debated at a later stage.

As recommended by a committee, this will propose that abortions without restriction be allowed for pregnancies up to 12 weeks.

He stressed that there would be "restrictions" and that abortion pills would not be available on demand, but only by a doctor.

Health Minister Simon Harris said the Government and the changes would not limit the power of courts in this area. However, anybody who wants change must first repeal the Eighth Amendment, he stressed.

"It is time for the people of Ireland to have their say on this," said Mr Harris.

Mr Varadkar also said the message abroad and that it was about Irish voters making a compassionate decision — "remove the effective ban" on abortions.



Tánaiste Simon Coveney says unrestricted access to abortion up to the 12th week of pregnancy goes too far.



Heather Humphreys expressed concerns, and said she had to discuss the matter with constituents.



Richard Bruton, Denis Naughtan, and Michael Creed are among Cabinet ministers to have expressed reservations.

# Coveney 'cannot support unrestricted access to abortion'

**Fachra Ó Ciainnigh**  
Political Correspondent

Tánaiste Simon Coveney has told cabinet colleagues he cannot support unrestricted access to abortion up to 12 weeks of pregnancy.

Eight Amendment is removed, widening a ministerial split on the issue.

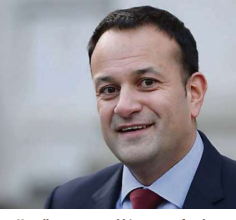
The Foreign Affairs Minister told yesterday's lengthy special cabinet meeting that while he is broadly in favour of liberalising Ireland's abortion laws he feels the proposed post-referendum 12-week law goes too far.

He repeated to the *Irish Examiner* last night.

Noting he is "untied with my cabinet colleagues", Mr Coveney said there is an ongoing disagreement within Cabinet over "the content of the legislation" that would repeal the Eighth Amendment.

He said while he remains supportive of holding a referendum and on the need to liberalise Ireland's abortion laws, he cannot support the proposal to allow unrestricted access to abortion up to the 12th week of pregnancy.

Mr Coveney is one of six government ministers who



Leo Varadkar announced his support for the proposals last week.

have yet to express their views publicly, with others including Michael Creed, Denis Naughtan, Michael Ring, Heather Humphreys, and Richard Bruton also understood to have raised concerns.

And while Cabinet last night formally agreed to allow a referendum on the Eighth Amendment with Taoiseach Leo Varadkar saying he will campaign for the liberalisation of the law, Mr Coveney's concerns and the silence from others has indicated an ongoing rift over the key 12-week limit.

The *Irish Examiner* understands that at last night's Cabinet meeting Mr Coveney was one of a number of ministers who said while they accept a referendum and liberalisation of Ireland's abortion laws is needed, they have concerns over the 12-week limit.

While not specifically saying they will oppose the 12-week limit, Mr Coveney, chief whip Joe McHugh, Rural Affairs Minister Michael Ring, Education Minister Richard Bruton, Business Minister Heather Humphreys, Agriculture Minister Michael Creed, and Communications Minister Denis Naughtan are believed to have raised questions over the new law.

Mr Coveney is still in the minority at Cabinet, with nine other cabinet members including Taoiseach Leo Varadkar, Justice Minister Regina Doherty, and Justice Minister Charlie Flanagan.

However, the fact that the majority of Cabinet is not fully supportive of the potential new abortion law should a referendum be passed has underlined the divisive nature of the debate, and again raised the possibility of ministers campaigning on either side of the abortion debate.

# Half of tracker scandal BoI customers yet to get compo

**Juno McEnroe**  
Political Correspondent

Almost half of Bank of Ireland's customers who were the lender over the tracker mortgage scandal have yet to be compensated or get redress.

Chief Executive Francesca McDonagh is to admit today that it has taken too long to resolve the overpriced mortgage fiasco but that she wants to

give customers wronged an unresolved apology.

The *Irish Examiner* understands that Ms McDonagh will tell the Oireachtas Finance Committee that taking borrowers off tracker mortgages or putting them on wrong rates has caused many customers "financial pain and personal distress".

The Bank of Ireland has identified 40,000 customers affected. Some 6,000 of these

were only recently added to its list after political pressure and challenges from the Central Bank late last year. These were eventually added in November.

Of the 9,400 customers, 3,400 were on an incorrect tracker, while 6,000 were on a fixed rate.

As of January 24, the number of customers receiving redress was 5,000, with around

€38m paid out.

Ms McDonagh will tell the committee that, since taking her position last November, she has prioritised resolving the scandal for the bank so as to regain the trust of customers.

"Quite simply, I believe Bank of Ireland took too long to get to the right position, and didn't go far enough in putting the customer first," said Ms McDonagh. "This

has undoubtedly caused many of our customers financial pain and personal distress.

"Therefore — before moving ahead with my comments this evening — I wish to restate my unreserved apology to all customers affected by this issue for the financial loss and anxiety this has caused them and their families."

TDs and senators on the

committee will also hear about personal situations for some customers, including borrowers who faced the loss of a home or a life-threatening illness and how Bank of Ireland's wrongful tracker charges "added to their difficulties".

In a number of extreme cases, customers lost the ownership of their homes or were financially shaken as a result of the bank's actions.

# Health workers to strike over lack of pay restoration

**Joe Leogue**

Some 7,000 workers providing services in hospitals, disability organisations and other agencies have voted overwhelmingly in favour of strike action over pay.

The Siptu members, who work in organisations defined under section 39 of the Health Act, and include the Irish Red Cross and St Joseph's Foundation in Cork, voted by 97% in favour of the strike action, starting with a one-day strike on February 14.

The Health Group has backed the calls to restore workers' pay.

The issue centres on a failure to restore the pay of

section 39 workers, which was cut during the recession but has not been restored in line with other healthcare workers.

Siptu health division organiser Paul Bell said members had legitimate entitlement to pay restoration.

"Traditionally these workers have had an established pay link with the public sector, and in 2010 and 2012 when the government was introducing pay cuts in the public service, those pay cuts found their way into the section 39 organisations on instruction of the Health Service Executive, by way of cutting the block grant that was issued to those organisations," Mr Bell told RTE.

"The big difficulty here is that, firstly, our members in those section 39 organisations understood that workers would be protected at the time, but that was strictly on the basis that when pay recovery and pay restoration would commence with the ending of Femp legislation, that they too would enjoy pay restoration, and that is what is happening, which is a great insult to the communities that rely on these workers, it is that they are



Siptu health organiser Paul Bell said members were entitled to pay restoration.

# Gardaí hunt man after attempted post office raid

**Eoin English**

Gardaí are hunting for a lone man who fled empty-handed after an attempted armed robbery at a post office in Cork.

The suspect, seen pacing outside Grenagh post office shortly before 9am was confronted at the door. A man with a small silver firearm, dropped a screwdriver and a plastic bag. The items are being forensically examined.

No cash was taken and no one was injured but the postmaster was said to be shaken after facing a third incident, of its kind within eight years.

Gardaí were examining

CCTV footage and conducting door-to-door enquiries last night.

Mr McPolin appealed for anyone who may have seen the raider or anyone with CCTV systems in the area, or for anyone with dash-cams to contact Gardai. Motorists on the main Cork to Mallow road around that time may also have witnessed suspicious activity, he said.

The suspect, who spoke with a heavy accent, was described as being around 40. He was wearing a hoodie, with the hood pulled up, a baseball hat, a scarf or a snood over his face, silver or grey tracksuit pants, black runners and a blue/green puffer jacket.

Anyone with information is asked to contact gardai in Gurrnanabrother or Blarney.



John Brassil was elected on the third count at convention.

# Brassil to contest general election

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Mr Brassil received 465 first preference votes and was elected on the third count when he exceeded the quota of 506. In second place was the Tralee municipal councillor and former TD Tom McIlillstrim with 256.

# Gardaí seize drugs worth €350,000

Gardaí in Tipperary have seized heroin and cannabis worth €350,000.

On Saturday night, a search of a van stopped by gardai in the area of the town of Carrigrohane, uncovered more than 200kg of cannabis herb.

The two occupants, a 45-year-old man and a 43-year-old woman, were arrested.

On Sunday night, a follow-up search of a house in Cashel uncovered uncovered heroin worth an approximate value of €280,000.

The woman was released without charge and a being responsible for the seizure was charged and appearing for a special sitting of Nenagh District Court yesterday.

# 5,000 girls attend STEM showcase

Education minister Richard Bruton has opened the I Wish STEM showcase at the RDS which aims to encourage more girls in Ireland to choose courses and careers in science, technology, engineering, and maths (STEM).

More than 5,000 female transition year students will experience what a career in STEM looks like through talks by female role models working in STEM, an extensive industry showcase and a STEM entrance exam.

More than 2,000 students attended the free I Wish STEM showcase events in Cork over the weekend and now the Dublin event will welcome a further 3,000 students.

# 16 donkeys rescued from neglect

Sixteen starving donkeys found huddled together for warmth in Ireland and now the Dublin event will welcome a further 3,000 students.

The Donkey Sanctuary in Cork are hoping there will be a prosecution in relation to the severe neglect of the dumped all-male donkeys aged from two to 20 in a field in south Mayo.

# Loise O'Keeffe won a European Court of Human Rights case.

The Bloom Postcard Gardens are looking for people to design 'postcard gardens' in Cork and Dublin.

The case is responsible for overseeing the implementation of European Court of Human Rights judgements.

# Improvements in child protection

The Government has updated the Council of Europe on child protection measures taken in the light of the 2014 European Court of Human Rights case won by Louise O'Keeffe, who was sexually abused by her school principal when attending primary school in the early 1970s.

The Department of Education has informed the Council's Committee of Ministers on the measures taken in the light of the 2014 European Court of Human Rights case won by Louise O'Keeffe, who was sexually abused by her school principal when attending primary school in the early 1970s.

# Amateur gardeners wanted for Bloom

An Bord Bia is looking for amateur gardeners to take part in this year's Bloom festival.

The festival will take place from May 31 to June 5 in Phoenix Park, Dublin, and organisers are looking for people to design 'postcard gardens' in Cork and Dublin.

The case is responsible for overseeing the implementation of European Court of Human Rights judgements.

Irish Examiner  
Tuesday, 30.01.2018

# Irish patients 'wait longer for treatment' than rest of Europe

**Dan Buckley**  
Irish patients have to wait longer for hospital treatment than those in any other European country, a report shows.  
Ease of access to healthcare in Ireland is the worst of 35 countries surveyed. Even vastly poorer nations such as Macedonia and Serbia provide much faster treatment, according to the 2017 Euro Health Consumer Index.

Ireland has fallen to 24th place overall — down from 21st in 2016 — and is second worst, after Romania, on a value for money measure. The Netherlands once again leads the rankings, followed by Switzerland. Compiled by the private

Swedish firm Health Consumer Powerhouse, the annual report analyses the performance of national healthcare systems across 48 indicators, including patient rights, access to care, treatment outcomes, range of services, and use of drugs. Ireland drops in the index mainly because of long waiting lists.

"In 2017, Ireland is alone in last position for accessibility, with patient organisations steadily giving very pessimistic feedback in the HCP survey," says the report. It notes that, after its 2015 report, Irish health authorities set a target of no patient having to wait longer than 18 months for a specialist appointment.

"Even if and when that target is reached, it will still be the worst waiting time situation in Europe," the report says, while pointing out that, despite high overall rankings, Norway and Sweden also have long waiting lists for treatment. It contrasts this with the situation in Serbia, which is on course to eliminating waiting lists.

The report asks: "If countries with limited means can achieve virtual absence of waiting lists, what excuses can there be for countries such as Ireland, the UK, Sweden, or Norway to keep having waiting list problems?" It adds that there is no correlation between a country's ability to healthcare and the

amount of money spent on it. "It is inherently cheaper to run a healthcare system without waiting lists than having waiting lists," says the report. "Contrary to popular belief, not least among healthcare politicians, waiting lists do not save money — they cost money."

Meanwhile, the survey notes: "Ireland no longer has a total ban on abortion," adding that "the requirement that a woman wishing an abortion becomes subject to judgement on if the pregnancy should be regarded as a serious health hazard, including suicide risk, is a very minor step indeed towards abortion as a women's right."

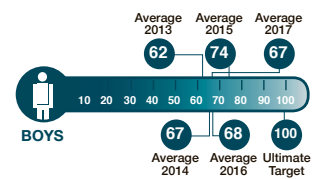
## PE at Leaving Cert will have 'no effect' on fitness



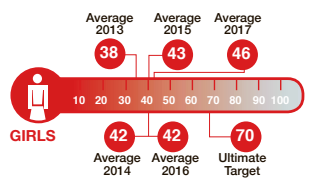
Fitness ambassador Sophie Spence, with Lucy Arbythnot, Anna Murphy, and Georgia McPoland, students from the Fitted Girls School — Mount Anville Secondary, Dublin — at the results announcement of the Irish Life School's Fitness Challenge. The challenge is the largest school fitness analysis in Ireland. Picture: Jason Clarke

**Catherine Shanahan**

Introducing PE as a Leaving Certificate exam subject this year will have "no effect" on schoolchildren's fitness levels because it will only attract those who are good at it.  
That's according to Niall Moyna, head of the School of Health and Human Performance, Dublin City University, who said: "It will be taken up by those who are good at it, the people who are really physically active. But how many engage those who aren't?"



These barometers show the average number of shuttle runs completed by Irish boys and girls during phase 2 of the Irish Life Health Schools' Fitness Challenge from 2013 to 2017. The ultimate target is recommended by the centre for Preventive Medicine, DCU.



The survey, involving 30,000 school children including 17,393 girls and 13,458 boys, found girls improved their fitness levels by 16% over a six-week period, while boys improved by 6% — boys overall fitness levels were better to begin with.

recorded as the last point at which they can keep up with the bleeps. The average number of shuttle runs for girls over six weeks was 46 and 67 for boys. Both scores are categorised as "good" in terms of cardiovascular fitness levels.

Prof Moyna, who oversees the Schools Fitness Challenge, said he believes there should be mandatory monitoring of cardiorespiratory fitness (CRF) in schools given CRF is proven to significantly lower the risk of chronic disease. He said

children's height, weight, blood pressure, and CRF should be continuously assessed as it was "probably the best indicator of their health". However, Prof Moyna expressed some concern at the level of drop off among senior cycle students when it comes to PE. He said the "points race" was to blame and that parents needed to "ask themselves some hard questions", given the importance of physical activity to both physical and mental health.

# Group-purchase residents hit out at delay in taking over estate

**Eoin English**

Residents who saved an unfinished holiday village from becoming a derelict ghost estate have criticised delays in taking the estate in charge. Individuals behind the group-purchase of homes in the Mountain View estate just outside Glengarriff in West Cork, said they have met every condition imposed and ticked every box, but still see no light at the end of the tunnel.



Mountain View, Glengarriff, Co Cork, where a group of private buyers are frustrated at delays in taking the estate in charge.

"We have jumped through every hoop — some of those hoops felt at times that they were on fire — but there is still no sign that the estate will be taken in charge by Cork County Council," said residents' spokesman Owen Dineen. The Irish Examiner highlighted the case last summer as an example of how other vacant or distressed holiday developments could be saved from becoming ghost estates, and an arden on local authorities. Planning was granted in 2004 for the construction of a leisure centre and a total of 23 holiday homes for short-term rental at Mountain View. Nine houses were sold but the Anglo-funded development partnership ran out of money during the crash. While the remaining houses were built, the interiors and landscaping were largely unfinished and the complex failed as a viable enterprise. Following a lengthy legal process, attempts to sell most of the distressed properties through a receiver failed. Prices for the four-star rental homes were around €150,000. Then, in mid-2011, Barry McSweeney, the first science advisor to the government, put together a group of 14

private mortgage-free buyers, some with links to Glengarriff, who were interested in buying the development in the village. With the help of a local auctioneer, John O'Neill of Celtic Properties, they sealed a group-purchase deal with the receiver — leisure centre included — in late 2011. Each buyer paid around €75,000 for the three-bedroom houses, but each buyer faced a minimum €10,000 bill to finish them. The buyers then embarked on a lengthy process to finish the estate so that it could be taken in charge by Cork County Council. They secured planning permission to change the use of the properties from short-term rental to dwelling houses, and among the conditions imposed was that they form a management company, which would be held legally responsible for the maintenance of the estate, its lighting, roads, and

footpaths. They even had to surface with tar a 250 sq m section of the N71 which leads from the estate to the village. Mr Dineen said that once the conditions were met, they formally applied to the council to take the estate in charge. "The council told them last June that it must ascertain the condition of the estate infrastructure, including CCTV surveys and reports in relation to its sewer network, and a water audit report on the condition of its water main network. Any such remedial works as deemed to be necessary by the council, and or Irish Water engineers, must be completed by the management company for the estate," the council said. "If I knew what the problem was, then maybe we could set about fixing it," he said.



## New phone connection a lifeline for baby Emily

**Catherine Shanahan**  
Health Correspondent

A couple whose baby is in need of a liver transplant and who were dependent on a highly unreliable landline to receive a potentially life-saving call have been given a new connection by their phone company.  
Ann-Marie and Sean Byrne, from Knockanore, Co Wick, spoke publicly last week about their fears that a malfunctioning landline could prevent them getting a call from the UK to say the hospital had a donor match for their seven-month-old daughter Emily. Emily has biliary atresia, a childhood disease of the liver in which one or more bile ducts are abnormally nar-

row, blocked, or absent. An attempt to perform a corrective procedure was unsuccessful and she now requires a transplant. After Ann-Marie spoke about her fears last week, her phone company, Eir, which had been investigating the landline problem, sent technicians to the Byrne home. They have now been given a new connection. "I was told that I was on a multipoint line and now they have given me a direct phone line from the Ballyconnan exchange," Ann-Marie said. While this has solved their problem in the interim, Ann-Marie is concerned that the rest of the parish remains dependent on unreliable landlines. The local school was recently without a

phone-line for three days, she said. "I don't think it is good enough for a school not to have this security and when it comes to Emily attending school here, it will become an essential need for them to be able to communicate with me if Emily ever gets unwell, as we don't know what the future holds," said Ann-Marie. Eir said: "There are particular challenges for delivering voice services for some residents in Knockanore, which the company is aware of and we work to ensure there is as stable a service as possible. The issue is further complicated by the fact that there are challenges in delivering a mobile service in the area."

## Flood expert to assess €160m OPW proposal

**Eoin English**

A Dutch flood expert will assess the OPW's €160m flood defence proposals for Cork during a weekend symposium. The visit by Eirik Kraaij, the deputy director of the Dutch Flood Protection Programme, coincides with the launch of an exhibition of entries into an international architectural design competition which sought to reimagine the flood-prone Morrison's Island area if a tidal barrier was built in the lower harbour. The Morrison's Island International Design Competition was organised by Cork Architectural Association with the support of the Architectural Association of Ireland and the National Sculpture Factory, in association with the Save Cork City campaign group.



The leading entries showcased in the Irish Examiner in November. The OPW ruled out a tidal barrier on cost, engineering, and environmental grounds, insisting instead that its flood plan, which includes raising quay walls in places, is the only viable option. It will be the largest flood defence project in the history of the State. Last week, city councillors called for the OPW's plans to be peer-reviewed by Dutch experts after it was confirmed flood defence works and public realm upgrades are expected to start in the Morrison's Island area this summer. Save Cork City confirmed last night that Mr Kraaij will give his opinion on the OPW's proposals at a symposium in UCC's Kane Building (from 8am to 6pm). The event is free and open to the public. The group issued an open invitation to the opening on Thursday night of the Morrison's Island Design Competition exhibition, in the Crawford Building on Grand Parade. H+ and Francis Keane Architect won the competition, with A2 Architects in second place, and GKM Architects in third. The exhibition is open to the public from 10am-5pm, Monday to Friday, until February 25.

### CAP 2020 CONSULTATION PROCESS

Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed TD, has launched a public consultation process on the future of the CAP post 2020. The consultation process will be open for an eight week period from Friday 26 January 2018 to Friday 23 March 2018. As part of this consultation process, there will be a series of six public meetings to consider the future of the Common Agricultural Policy. Minister for State Andrew Doyle TD and Minister Creed will between them attend and address all of the meetings.

The meetings will be an important part of the Department's consultation process. Details of the public meetings are as follows:-

Date	Time	Location	Attended by
Monday 5th February	8.00pm - 10.00pm	Talbot Hotel, Portlaoise Road, Carlow.	Minister for State Andrew Doyle TD
Monday 12th February	8.00pm - 10.00pm	Charleville Park Hotel, Limerick Road, Rathgoggan North, Charleville, Co Cork.	Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed TD
Tuesday 13th February	8.00pm - 10.00pm	Newrange Hotel, Bridge Street, Navan, Co Meath.	Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed TD
Wednesday 14th February	7.00pm - 9.00pm	Bush Hotel, Town Centre, Carrick-on-Shannon, Co Leitrim.	Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed TD
Tuesday 20th February	8.00pm - 10.00pm	Hodson Bay Hotel, Roscommon Road, Athlone.	Minister for State Andrew Doyle TD
Wednesday 21st February	8.00pm - 10.00pm	McWilliam Park Hotel, Kilcollam Road, Claremorris, Co Mayo.	Minister for State Andrew Doyle TD

This consultation comes against the background of the launch of the European Commission's Communication on the future of food and farming on 29 November 2017. With legislative proposals underpinning the future CAP expected in June 2018, Irish citizens will have an opportunity now to have an input. Written submissions should be sent by email to cap\_post2020@agriculture.gov.ie or by post to EU Division, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Floor 6 Centre, Agriculture House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2 marked "Submission on CAP post 2020". The deadline for receipt of submissions is 23rd March 2018. A consultation document and blank submission form will be available on the Department's website (from the 26th January 2018) at the following address: <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/farmerschermessubmissions/>. They will also be available on request from EU Division, telephone number 01 6072813 or email to cap\_post2020@agriculture.gov.ie

# Maternity hospital challenges decision to hold death inquiry

**Aodhan Ó Faolain**

The National Maternity Hospital (NMH) claims a new inquiry arising over the death of a woman during surgery for an ectopic pregnancy will have a "chilling effect" on the operation of maternity services.

The hospital was yesterday given permission by the High Court to challenge the minister for health's decision to order Higa to carry out a statutory investigation

into patient safety issues, including the practise of surgery being carried on outside core hours and the readiness of hospitals to respond to major emergencies in such circumstances.

Maik Higa, 34, a teacher and a US citizen, died at the NMH on May 8, 2014. The 36-year-old father Alan Thawley died with his action over her death against the NMH for compensation damages. The coroner heard the doctor who

carried out the surgery was an inexperienced junior surgeon and was not supervised.

At the High Court, Paul Gallagher, counsel for the NMH, said it was their case the minister was acting outside his powers in ordering a new inquiry in circumstances where three other reports into the death of Ms Thawley have taken place, one by the hospital itself, another by the HSE and there was also the coroner's report.

The hospital's review had resulted in the implementation of changes to ensure there is no recurrence of the tragedy and they were backed by the HSE, the coroner and Higa, counsel said.

The minister had fettered his discretion by telling Mr Thawley that whatever about the HSE report, he (minister) would still order an inquiry into the matter.

This was effectively giving a third party the discretion as to whether an investigation would be ordered, counsel said.

A statutory inquiry requires that it must be on foot of a specific concern but the minister had implied it was because the provision of all hospital services outside core hours was unsafe, counsel said. This is an irrational position and outside the minister's powers, he said.

In an affidavit for the proceedings, NMH Master Rhona Mahony says the new investigation, under Section

9(2) of the Health Act 2007, will undermine clinical and public confidence and could be counter-productive in its effect on national maternity services.

It will have a "chilling effect" on the ability of clinicians to deliver high risk and emergency care in an already challenging environment, both at the NMH and nationally, she says.

While no maternity hospital has a 24/7 consultant presence, and emergency

obstetric procedures are frequently performed in the absence of a consultant, consultant staff are readily available when called, she says.

This was exemplified in the Thawley case when the consultant obstetrician was in theatre within 10 minutes of being called and a consultant anaesthetist within 18 minutes, she says.

There is no evidence that the minister's decision to hold an inquiry meets the statutory threshold for a

Section 9 inquiry, she says.

The minister had predetermined whether a fourth report would be necessary and in doing so, prior to the publication of the HSE, the minister had effectively conferred that decision on Mr Thawley, she says.

Mr Justice Seamus Noonan granted the NMH permission to bring judicial review proceedings against the minister, with Higa as notice party, and said the case can return to court next month.

# Brexit timeline could be extended

■ Britain set to leave EU by end of 2020 under agreed guidelines

**Juno McEnroe**  
Political Correspondent

Britain must exit the EU by the end of 2020 but the deadline could be extended, a position favoured by Ireland to ensure there is a smooth Brexit agreement.

EU ministers met in Brussels yesterday and agreed the guidelines for the transition period for Brexit, which has been set to minimise disruption for businesses, services as well as trade.

The EU27 gave their approval of new guidelines for chief Brexit negotiator Michel Barnier, ahead of talks expected to end in March.

Under the terms, the transition period will run from March 2019 until December 2020, some 21 months. EU foreign ministers, including Helen McEntee, agreed the draft timeframe. However, it is believed British MPs and senators are also pressing for the exit period to be extended by at least a few months.

Tánaiste Simon Coveney has previously said he preferred a Brexit transition period of up to five years.

Under the deal agreed yesterday, McEnroe said:

- Britain must continue to observe EU trade and customs rules during the transition.
- The UK will have no say over those rules.
- EU members say the transition should be longer than two years, but there is scope for extra time.
- No "cherry-picking" over the single market during the time and free movement into the UK remains.

Speaking after the general affairs meeting in Brussels yesterday, Ms McEnroe said she welcomed the agreement by the EU27 on negotiating directives which propose a status quo transitional arrangement after the UK leaves the EU in March 2019.

"Such an arrangement will provide certainty and

limit disruption for our citizens and businesses. Under such an arrangement the UK will be expected to continue to apply the full EU acquis. The overriding aim of such an arrangement is to ensure that there are no gaps or cliff edge effects between the UK's departure from the EU and the entry into force of the EU-UK future relationship agreement.

"I also underlined Ireland's wish to see the closest possible relationship between the EU and the UK, including on trade, while also making clear that the integrity of the EU's single market and customs union must be protected," she added.

UK Brexit secretary David Davis dismissed suggestions transition could take up to three years, but did say: "Twenty-one months may be fine, plus or minus a few months is neither here nor there. But we are not talking about extending to three years. It isn't necessary."

Mr Barnier said agreement on Britain's orderly withdrawal from the bloc, which includes future citizens' rights, the Irish border question, and the multi-billion divorce bill, still had to be finalised.

He highlighted how Britain would not be able to interfere with new EU rules during the near two-year transition period. "The UK must accept these rules of the game from the outset. Otherwise we would be moving towards something which we did fear for the future, divergence and a type of single market à la carte, which is not possible, certainly not during the transition period, which the UK has requested."

Mr Barnier, nonetheless, said he accepted that Britain would want to talk to third countries during the transition about the future trade deal, but it would not be able to implement those new deals during the transition.



The scene where a van has crashed through the kitchen window of pensioner Annie Burrell's home outside Waringstown, in Co Down.

Picture: Liam McBurney/PA Wire

# 'All of a sudden my window came in'

**David Young**

A 73-year-old woman has escaped serious injury after a van ploughed through the wall of her home in Co Down.

Annie Burrell was knocked from her chair when the Citroen Berlingo smashed into her kitchen just after 9pm on Sunday. She said: "I was sitting in the chair and all of a sudden my back window came in. There was a loud bang, maybe with the window breaking and I was knocked out of my chair onto the floor."

Ms Burrell, who was watching television, was treated for shock and minor injuries to her head and arm caused by flying glass. "The water was running all over the floor. The person must have left the scene. I was concerned about whoever was in the van and whether they were badly hurt," she told the BBC.

It is understood Ms Burrell managed to raise the alarm by crawling to a telephone and alerting family members who live nearby.

A 27-year-old man has been arrested.



The scene where a van has crashed through the kitchen window of pensioner Annie Burrell's home outside Waringstown, in Co Down.

Picture: Liam McBurney/PA

# Father of Horan victim urges people to stop attacking paedophile's home

**Cormac O'Keefe**  
Security Correspondent

The father of one of the girls groomed and sexually exploited by predator Matthew Horan has appealed to people not to carry out any further attacks on the paedophile's family home.

It follows reports the home in Clondalkin, west Dublin, was targeted last week after Horan pleaded guilty to sample charges of child sexual exploitation and possession of child abuse images.

Horan's father was at home when people banged outside, banged on the door and smashed the

windows, demanding that his son come out, even though the 26-year-old was in custody.

Horan was sentenced to seven and a half years in prison last Friday.

He had used Skype, Snapchat, Instagram and Kik, an anonymous messaging app, to groom girls as young as nine to send him sexually explicit images of themselves.

On RTE's *Joe Duffy Show* yesterday, a letter from the dad of one of the victims was read out. "The enormity of what had happened was only hitting his family."

The dad said he had not intended of speaking out until he heard about the

attacks: "For these people who are targeting the home of his father, I would urge them to stop this immediately as they are not doing any good, certainly not in prison last Friday. Respect to all of you gardai for your dedication."

He added: "Finally, we'd like to say how proud we are of our daughter, who spoke intimately to specialist guards in the hope that this would help stop him from doing it to anyone else.

Sadly there are other children who are in danger and more needs to be done on social media to stop them."

involved in the case: "To the guards that spoke to me over the last two years, I want to say thank you for all you have done and to catch people like Matthew Horan. All this material has to be looked at. This is an incredible thing to do and have to go home to a normal life."

Respect to all of you gardai for your dedication."

He added: "Finally, we'd like to say how proud we are of our daughter, who spoke intimately to specialist guards in the hope that this would help stop him from doing it to anyone else.

Sadly there are other children who are in danger and more needs to be done on social media to stop them."



Matthew Horan was jailed for more than seven years last week, and his family home has reportedly come under attack since.

# Cabinet set to approve ratification of 2008 convention on disabilities

**Daniel McConnell**

Wards of court are to be abolished and the rights of disabled people to be enhanced as the Government is today set to approve ratification of the UN Convention on Disabilities.

Tánaiste Simon Coveney is to bring a memorandum, seen by the Irish Examiner,

seeking Government approval to sign up to the 2008 convention.

Ireland is the only EU member not to comply with the convention which seeks to promote, protect, and ensure the full and equal enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by all persons with disabilities.

Disability Minister Finian

McGrath has sought Government support for this move since entering office.

The memorandum states that it may be necessary to introduce domestic legislation to ensure Ireland is compliant with the convention, which is supported by 175 countries.

The convention will create binding legal obligations for

Ireland to abide by under international law.

Mr Coveney is to set out a number of legal and policy concerns to be considered prior to the Government deciding to proceed with ratification.

The memorandum says the 2016 Disability Bill will need to pass through the Oireachtas to allow it comply.

A separate bill on deprivation of liberty will also need to be enacted by the end of this year, states the memorandum. This is to allow appropriate legal safeguards to be put in place dealing with the individual rights to liberty and security.

It is also proposed that a dedicated decisions support service be set up, with a

budget of €3m, to replace the current ward-of-court system for adults.

The 1871 Lunacy Regulation Act and the Marriage of Lunatics Act of 1811 will also be repealed.

These services and legal measures must be in place before the provisions of the act can be commenced, ministers will be told.

Mr Coveney will tell colleagues there are many complex strands to this work, including involvement of multiple players. A major effort and mobilisation will be required to achieve the decisions support service.

The Cabinet will also hear that Ireland, based on advice from the attorney general, will enter some reservations

to the convention in order to modify the legal effect of some relevant provisions.

The concerns centre on the ability to consent to being able to make decisions for themselves. The memorandum says Article 12 of the convention, which relates to legal capacity for the operation of the 2015 Assisted Decision Making Act.

# Review decided not to add Miss D case to O'Higgins terms

Gerard Cunningham

An independent review initially considered adding a historic complaint against whistleblower Sgt Maurice McCabe to the terms of reference of the O'Higgins commission, but decided not to after reviewing the Garda investigation files.

The allegations of sexual assault, made in 2006 by Miss D, ended in a direction from the DPP against prosecution as there was no evidence that

any crime had occurred. The Charleton Tribunal is examining if unjustified grounds were inappropriately relied upon by ex-commissioner Níorín O'Sullivan to discredit Sgt McCabe at the O'Higgins commission. Michael Flahive, an assistant secretary in the Department of Justice, said, in his evidence to the tribunal, that Sean Guerin SC had conducted a "paper review" of existing reports and documentation on cases which

Sgt McCabe had highlighted. Following the publication of the Guerin Report in 2014, an Independent Review Mechanism was set up with two senior and five junior counsel to consider what cases should be referred to a commission of investigation. Mr Flahive said it was recognised that including the Miss D case in the terms of reference for O'Higgins "could be very problematic". "Rightly or wrongly, fairly or unfairly, it would have

been seen as having the effect of putting Sgt McCabe on the back foot with the investigation," Mr Flahive said. He said he asked if lawyers at the IRM, who had only seen a letter from Miss D, could also see Garda files for the case. This was organised, and after reviewing the files the IRM decided against adding the Miss D case. The witness agreed with Michael McDowell SC, on behalf of Sgt McCabe, that "it would have been a huge

problem for Sgt McCabe if he was both suspect-defendant and somebody to give evidence" at the commission. Mr Flahive said the terms of reference for O'Higgins were "are almost verbatim as recommended by Sean Guerin", except for three small, technical differences. He said he was clear in his mind that it would not have been possible, or proper, for the minister to intervene in the case. The Garda commissioner's legal instructions at the commission.

Mr Justice Peter Charleton asked Mr Flahive what he had done if he had been told that someone was to "deploy as a weapon against Sgt McCabe the actual allegation of abuse". Mr Flahive said he never thought that would happen, but he had done as he had spoken with the department secretary general, the minister, and attorney general, and he had informed the official in the Attorney General's office, told the tribunal he first learned of the Miss D allegations when he was contacted by solicitor Annaree Ryan on May 15, 2015. Mr Dreehan said his prior knowledge of the case was "zero" but he understood that though the DPP had directed no charges, the investigation had profound impact on Sgt McCabe, and arising from that, that had caused a change in Sgt McCabe's behaviour and in his relationship with the force.

"I was informed that An Garda Síochána would put it to Sgt McCabe that he was not to be treated as a suspect before the O'Higgins Commission by a sense of having been treated unjustly," Mr Dreehan told the tribunal. Mr Dreehan wrote an email on what he was told by Ms Ryan, which he forwarded to his superior. He said he was aware that the Department of Justice would be informed "at an appropriate level".

# Man got 'small sum of money for brutal murder of mother of three

Eoin Reynolds

An historian who has pleaded guilty to being a mother of three in her home told gardai he was paid to carry out the "brutal" crime. The murderer admitted his role in the slaying after gardai received a tip from a woman in Australia, telling them that he had confessed to her. Anthony Lambe, aged 34, from Annadrumman, Castlebarney, Co Monaghan, appeared at the Central Criminal Court yesterday morning where he pleaded guilty to the murder of Irene White, aged 43, in the kitchen of Ice House, Demesne, Dundalk, Co Louth, on April 6, 2005.



Anthony Lambe holds a picture of her sister, murder victim Irene White, outside court yesterday after Anthony Lambe was jailed for life for the murder in 2005. Picture: Collins Courts

When arraigned, Lambe replied, "guilty judge" before a hearing that finished when Justice Patrick McCarthy sentenced him to a term of imprisonment. The deceased woman's daughter Jennifer McBride told the court that the death of her loving and gentle mother had caused "tremendous pain, sorrow and devastation".

Detective Insp Patrick Marry told Sean Gillane, prosecuting, that Irene White, a respected member of her community, had three children aged 17, six and five when she was murdered. She had separated from her husband and lived with her children at Ice House, a large house in Dundalk adjoining a park.

On the morning of April 6, 2005, she dropped her child to school. She spoke to one of the teachers and returned home. Irene's mother, Maureen McBride, lived in a mobile home to the rear of the property and her routine was to call into her daughter for a chat in the morning or early afternoon. At 12.30pm Ms McBride arrived and noticed that the back door was open. Inside, she found Irene on the kitchen floor surrounded by a pool of blood and with her head against the dishwasher.

When gardai arrived they saw bloody footprints and the body lying on the floor in front of the door and over a wall into the adjacent park. They also noted that there was no evidence of a door entry, that Irene was wearing orange rubber gloves,

and the radio was on in the kitchen. Nothing appeared to have been stolen. State pathologist Marie Casid's forensic stab wounds to Irene's front, back and arms. She believed Irene was attacked from behind by a man who struck her in the lungs and heart. Her attacker had also cut her throat but that wound would not have caused her death.

The Garda investigation "ran into the sand" and was taken over by the Serious Crime Review team in 2011. In July 2012 a television programme calling for fresh information led to an anonymous call to gardai from a woman in Australia. She said Lambe had told her he murdered Irene White.

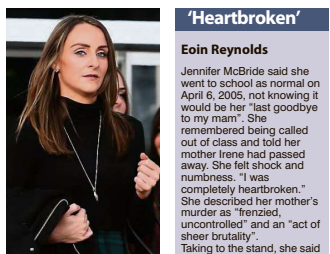
In 2016 gardai identified the woman and two of them travelled to Australia to interview her. Gardai then spoke to Lambe's former



Anthony Lambe, centre, had drink, drug, and debt problems at the time of the killing. Picture: Garra Wilkinson

girlfriend who told them that she could remember April 6, 2005, because she flew with Lambe to England and recalled that he was "jittery and nervous". She put this down to the fact it was his first time flying. Gardai arrested Lambe on May 20, 2017. He confessed from the outset, telling gardai that an individual

had asked him to kill Ms White on behalf of someone else. At the time Lambe was "in a very bad place", drinking and taking drugs and in debt. The person who approached him gave him details of the layout of Ice House and Irene's movements. He remembered stalking Irene and cutting her throat before making his



Jennifer McBride, who was taken out of class to be with her mother Irene had been killed. Picture: Courtpix

escape over the wall. He also told gardai he said a prayer over her body. He later telephoned the person who had asked him to do it and received a "relatively small sum of money". In the year that followed his drink and drug abuse went out of control and he had regular nightmares.

Det Insp Marry said Lambe showed genuine remorse, saying he was sorry and breaking down on several occasions. He said Lambe came from a "very well respected, decent family" who had been distressed on learning what he had done. He also agreed with Jonathan Kilfeather, defending, that Lambe was sexually abused for three years as a child and that this played heavily on his mind.

In 2011, six years after Irene's murder, Lambe began studying for an arts degree in a community college. He had been arrested for studying for a PhD in history and had a strong interest in archaeology. Det Insp Marry said he believed Lambe was under pressure at the time of the murder and added: "That is as much as I can say at this stage." He agreed with counsel that Lambe took part in charity work and thought he would "be a good citizen" but later realised he could not.

## 'Heartbroken'

Eoin Reynolds

Jennifer McBride said she went to school as normal on April 6, 2005, not knowing her mother Irene had passed away. She felt shock and sadness. "I was completely heartbroken," she described her mother's murder as "frenzied, uncontrolled" and an "act of sheer brutality". Taking to the stand, she said their home had been filled with peace, tranquility, love and laughter but that was to be short-lived. Following her mother's death, she went to live with her grandmother and was separated from her two siblings. Then tragedy struck again when Maureen died six months after Irene, "from a broken heart", having never recovered from finding Irene's body. Jennifer was again left isolated and homeless.

She remembered the many good times with her mother and felt guilt and sorrow that her young siblings were robbed of those moments and their mother's unconditional love. A statement by Irene's sister, Anne Delacassian, was read out. She said her sister's death was brutal and horrible and she thought for Irene or her family. She asked why he had done it, what was his drink and drug abuse, and why he had regular nightmares.

Speaking outside court, Irene's husband Alan White said he was "in shock" when he heard the news. He said he had been hired to kill his wife but added: "We got the result we needed."

He agreed that his jeopardy was both wrong and not in the public interest. Given the "way that she was being pilloried in public", he said there were few who might stand side by side with her. Anything the department could do to avoid that was "in the public interest". Mr O'Leary also asked about his drafting of a letter on behalf of Ms O'Sullivan

# Justice worked 'hand in glove' with Garda commissioner

Elaine Loughlin

Political Reporter

The Department of Justice had a "hand-in-glove" relationship with former Garda commissioner Níorín O'Sullivan after the publication of the O'Higgins commission report and worked to keep her in her position. A senior department official who looked into the Tribunal it was considered to be "in the public interest" not to lose another Garda commissioner.

Former taoiseach and justice minister Frances Fitzgerald is due to give evidence at the tribunal tomorrow. Ken O'Leary, a retired deputy secretary general of the department, yesterday said the O'Higgins commission, which looked into complaints made by Sgt Maurice McCabe about malpractice in the Cavan/Monaghan Garda division, had found nothing against Ms O'Sullivan.

He said there was "great controversy" when leaks emerged from the commission and Ms O'Sullivan had been "tarnished". He said it was "extremely rare" that Ms O'Sullivan to publicly respond to leaks.

Det Insp Marry, counsel for the tribunal, asked Mr O'Leary if the department was working "hand in glove" with Ms O'Sullivan. He agreed they had been working closely in the wake of O'Higgins and it was "for a good reason". "The public interest was not to be served in any way by the commissioner's position being put in jeopardy at that time," he said.

"We felt that any jeopardy to that position was both wrong and not in the public interest." Given the "way that she was being pilloried in public", he said there were few who might stand side by side with her. Anything the department could do to avoid that was "in the public interest". Mr O'Leary also asked about his drafting of a letter on behalf of Ms O'Sullivan

that was sent to Ms Fitzgerald about the publication of the O'Higgins report in 2016.

The tribunal heard a total of 15 drafts went back and forth to Garda Headquarters and that consultant Terry Proctor had an input into the memos.

While he agreed the exchange of letters may have appeared "odd", Mr O'Leary said there was to be a debate in the Dáil on the matter and the department was "trying to bring these controversies to an end".

He described the memo as more a "statement of consciousness" rather than a draft of any speech Ms Fitzgerald might make in the Dáil.

Mr O'Leary had Ms O'Sullivan on May 15, 2015, were also raised at the tribunal yesterday. He said Ms O'Sullivan, with whom he had a "close working relationship", had contacted him to tell him that a "dispute had arisen" at the O'Higgins commission.

Describing the conversations had taken place, Mr O'Leary said he had contacted him to tell him that a "dispute had arisen" at the O'Higgins commission. He said he had contacted him to tell him that a "dispute had arisen" at the O'Higgins commission.

Asked why no details of the conversations had been written down, Mr O'Leary said he probably would have been in touch with the Garda commissioner, "just would not have been appropriate for the minister to intervene." "While he was happy to offer "abstract advice", he would not get into the "nitty gritty" of the commission and stressed it would not have been appropriate for the minister to intervene. "Asked why no details of the conversations had been written down, Mr O'Leary said he probably would have been in touch with the Garda commissioner, "just would not have been appropriate for the minister to intervene."

# Direct provision residents fail to speak out over 'troublemaker' label fears

Noel Baker

Social Affairs Correspondent

The Ombudsman received 97 formal complaints from residents of direct provision centres last year, with some asylum seekers claiming they were reluctant to complain about issues where they lived for fear of being labelled "troublemakers".

Of the 97 complaints lodged with the Ombudsman since last April, just 10 were upheld but assistance was given in another 28 cases.



Ombudsman Peter Tyndall said many complaints related to a transfer request not being facilitated, but there were also complaints about food and accommodation. Picture: Valerie O'Sullivan

Thirty complaints related to transfers, half of which were not upheld. According to the Ombudsman, many complaints are due to a greater request not being facilitated, often because there is no suitable capacity at another centre.

In a commentary on his office's role in addressing complaints in direct provision since April, Peter Tyndall said it was "reasonable" a transfer request be turned down on capacity grounds, but said applications could also be held until a suitable vacancy arose. "I am pleased to report that the Reception and Integration Agency has started to take this approach," he said.

Tyndall said he was personally made aware of a complaint by a resident of a centre in Waterbury who was the subject of a deportation order and given a letter telling him to vacate the centre within six weeks. On

checking with the RIA, the Ombudsman found 29 such letters had been issued to residents across different centres. He said while it does write to residents who have deportation orders outstanding against them, it does not encourage them to agree to voluntary deportation and it would not forcibly remove any of the 23 residents concerned. The Ombudsman said his staff began visiting direct provision centres and Emergency Reception and Orientation Centres from last April and also engaged

with the stakeholder organisations including the RIA, the Ombudsman for Children's Office, and NGOs. His observations noted that as well as complaints about food provision, transfers and accommodation, complaints were also lodged regarding the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection, often about a failure to sanction an exceptional means payment, and about the HSE, mainly over medical cards. On the department, he said there was "a small number of Designated Per-

sons habitually refusing applications that are normally granted elsewhere". The Ombudsman noted how "many residents have told my staff that they were reluctant to complain about issues at their centres for fear of being singled out as troublemakers or persecuted in some other way for having complained by transport Minister Shane Ross, it was not sufficient. The county council, which oversees more than 12,600km of roads, got slightly more than one 10th of the national allocation of €417m.

# Warning over food intolerance tests

Noel Baker

The country's health products' watchdog has said food intolerance tests are clinically invalid and nobody should act on the results of the tests without expert advice from a medical expert. The Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA) said it had carried out a review of food intolerance test products currently on the market to examine the safety of the tests, given their increased availability in recent years, but found there was no single test to diagnose food intolerance. It also advised people not to rely on the results of test kits alone to detect a condi-

tion or to remove certain food groups from their diet. The finding prompted the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (PSI), which regulates the pharmacy sector, to advise pharmacists they should not offer food intolerance testing services to diagnose food intolerance. The HPRA's scientific review included commonly used test kits such as immunoglobulin G (IgG) tests which are based on a blood sample. It found that while the tests will not diagnose intolerance, they will detect previous exposure to a food. The review included test kits available in some pharmacies as well as

ones that can be bought online. HPRA chief executive Dr Loraine Nolan said: "People should not rely on the results of these test kits on their own regardless of how they are labelled and promoted. Any examination relating to a person's ability to digest or 'tolerate' foods should be made in careful consultation with a doctor or dietician. It should not be based on these tests alone as this could lead to a misdiagnosis and the removal of important nutrients in the diet." An HPRA spokesman said EU legislation due to come into force in the coming years would replace outdated regulations and allow

the HPRA more power to address issues around such products or to place restrictions on them. Stobich was consulted as part of the HPRA review included the Irish Pharmacy Union, the Irish Food Allergy Network and the PSI. Niall Byrne, registrar of the PSI, said: "It is clear from the HPRA notice and from the Food Safety Authority's advice on food allergy and food intolerance that the only clinically valid method for the diagnosis and treatment of food intolerance is an elimination diet, which should be carried out under the supervision of a registered dietician or medical professional."

# Mayor: €44m not enough for roads

Sean O'Riordan

The Government's allocation of €44m for the maintenance of regional and local roads in Co Cork "falls short" of what is needed to properly address the dire condition of many of them. That's the message to the Mayor of County Cork, Cllr Declan Hurley, who said while he welcomed the announcement by transport Minister Shane Ross, it was not sufficient. The county council, which oversees more than 12,600km of roads, got slightly more than one 10th of the national allocation of €417m.

While the Co Cork allocation is up from €36m last year, it is still well below the €65m granted in 2008. Council sources said that was the amount of money needed to maintain the road network properly. In recent weeks council-levied emergency funding to be allocated by the Government because of heavy rain have led to the serious deterioration of a number of roads in the county. In some areas potholes have become craters, with roads around Mid-Cork causing damage to a number

of vehicles. Similarly, very poor road conditions have been reported in parts of the West and North of the county. While it welcomes the investment it has to be recognised that it does fall short of what is needed to address the state of the roads," said Cllr Hurley. Because of years of cuts in the road maintenance budget the council's resurfacing work has been reduced since 2008 to about 40% of what it should be. In some areas potholes have become craters, with roads around Mid-Cork causing damage to a number

of roads," a council source said. Another issue is the significant cuts in the council's road maintenance staff. Their number has been cut by nearly 400 in the past 10 years. Mr Ross said he was very happy to be able to announce that the Government had increased in grant allocations for regional and local roads this year. He said the council's main priority remains the maintenance and safety of the network, he added that investment in maintenance and renewal nationally will see an increase of about 18% in 2018.

# Kim Jong Nam met US national before poison death

Rozanna Lattif

Kim Jong Nam, the estranged half brother of North Korea's leader, met a United States national at a Malaysian island hotel days before his sensational killing last February, a police official told a court hearing.

The women, Malaysian Siti Aisyah and Doan Thi Huong, a Vietnamese, have been charged with four North Korean fugitives for the murder.

Prosecutors say the women smeared his face with VX, a lethal chemical poison at Kuala Lumpur airport on February 13.

Defence lawyers say the women thought they were playing a prank for a reality show. They face the death penalty, if convicted.

Kim was in Malaysia on February 6 before travelling two days later to Langkawi Island, a tourist spot off North Korea's coast. A local police investigator in the case, Wan Azirul Nizam, told the court.

But he was unable to confirm the woman's identity, saying he could not recall the name of the hotel where Kim stayed and did not know the name of the American man seen meeting with the North Korean on February 9.

Wan Azirul confirmed the laptop was sent to a forensics laboratory in the Malaysian capital of Kuala Lumpur, which found the computer had last been used on February 9.

The forensics report, provided to reporters at the hearing, also showed some data had been accessed from a USB pendrive inserted into the laptop on the same day.

But Wan Azirul said he was unsure whether Kim had passed on data in Langkawi or if the meeting was linked to the airport murder.

"Come on, you have a total lapse in memory?" he told Wan Azirul. "You say you investigated but you've forgotten everything? Which hotel? What was this investigation for? If it wasn't related to this case?"

"Until now, the identity of the man is not known," Wan Azirul told the court.

The witness said he could not remember the hotel name or whether the room was cleaned after the murder or the man, prompting a lash-

ing from Gooi for his "severe lapse in memory."

Gooi has told reporters that Kim's killing was likely a political assassination because of involvement by the North Korean Embassy. A witness has testified that a car used to take the North Korean suspects to the airport on the day of the murder belonged to the embassy.

The court also heard that an embassy official met the suspect and facilitated their check-in at the airport.

Mr McCabe's departure from the FBI's number two slot is effective immediately with the deputy director granted what was termed "terminal leave".

Mr McCabe has been repeatedly attacked by Mr Trump since the autumn of 2016, when it was revealed that his wife had accepted campaign contributions from the political action committee of Virginia governor Terry McAuliffe, a close Hillary Clinton ally, during a failed state senate run.

**Activist charged with subversion**

Chinese human rights activist, Yu Wensheng, has been charged with inciting subversion against the state after writing a letter calling for democratic reforms.

Yu's lawyer, Huang Hangzhou, said the charge, earlier this month, a dozen police officers detained him in Beijing, while he was waiting in his car to take his 13-year-old son to school.

**FBI deputy director McCabe leaves post**

FBI deputy director Andrew McCabe, a frequent target of President Donald Trump's criticism, has been ordered to leave the bureau for months last year following the firing of James Comey, is leaving his position.

Yesterday's announcement came ahead of a previously planned retirement this spring.

**IS kill 11 in military academy attack**

Islamic State militants attacked Afghan soldiers guarding a military academy in the capital of Kabul, which is in the north, on Saturday, killing 11 troops and wounding 16.

The attack was the latest in a series of recent violence in Kabul this month, unleashed by the Taliban and the rival Islamic State group. Scores have been killed and hundreds wounded. The attack started at 4am, and fighting continued long after daybreak.

**'No man's land' proposal for Myanmar**

The Philippine defence chief has proposed a "no man's land" to avoid evacuating thousands of residents each time the country's most active volcano explodes.

He made a name for himself in the Philippines as a journalist and swing singer in the 1930s. He was arrested in 1943 (his mother was Jewish), and he was deported to the Theresienstadt concentration camp. There, he played in the Ghetto Swingers band.

# Can Trump stick to script beyond State of Union?

Chronic inability to stay on-message could scupper annual showpiece speech address of US presidency

Jonathan Lemire  
Washington

No natural orator, US president, Donald Trump, can deliver a powerful speech that outlines his vision, strikes an emotional chord, and moves commentators to declare that he, at last, looks presidential. And then the teleprompter gets turned off.

Time and again, Mr Trump has followed up a well-received, stick-to-the-script address with wild in-discipline, quickly losing any momentum in a contrivance of his own making.

His first State of the Union address, in the early hours of tomorrow morning, will be the biggest test, yet, of his ability to not just deliver a stately speech, but also to stay on track, as the White House rolls out policies based on it.

"He has little message discipline," said a Republican who was press secretary for former president, George W. Bush.

Virtually every time he moves the ball far down the field, he seems to derail himself in a twent-second instead of building on the momentum.

"The State of the Union is a big piece for any president, a chance to showcase the accomplishments of the past year, while setting the tone for the next one. Every word is meticulously vetted, every presidential guest is carefully chosen, and each moment is painstakingly rehearsed."

For Mr Trump, dogged by low poll numbers and the persistent Russia probe, the speech carries particular importance.

"It's one of the few events presidents conduct in which 30 to 40m or more Americans are watching," Mr Fleischer said. "There is hardly another moment of presidential exposure as big as this one, and it's open when the president and his staff have all the control. They are not reacting to events. They are controlling them, and they need to deliver."



Donald Trump: State of Union address at Zam Irish time.

Last February 27, Mr Trump indeed delivered, when he gave his first address to a joint session of Congress. The speech came amid a period of crisis for the young administration — national security adviser, Michael Flynn, had been dismissed days earlier — and amid questions about whether Mr Trump had the ability and temperament to lead the nation.

Surprising critics, he sounded a rallying call for unity, declaring that it was time to end an era of "pure, unadulterated division", in the wake of a bruising campaign and a tumultuous start to his presidency.

"The time for trivial fights is behind us. We just need the more responsible members that fill our hearts. The bravery to express the hopes that stir our souls. And the confidence to turn those hopes and those dreams into action."

The speech, which also featured an emotional standing ovation for the widow of a slain Navy SEAL, drew raves from Republicans and grudging respect from many Democrats, while prompting a number of observers to wonder if Mr Trump had found his footing and was ready to usher in a new, more responsible chapter of his presidency.

That lasted less than a week.

On March 4, Mr Trump typed out a series of tweets in which he accused former president, Barack Obama, of "controlling the media" and "lying" to the American people.

The stand-off contrasted sharply with relations during the administration of Barack Obama, when both sides sought to create a massive free trade zone between the EU and US which, it was argued, could yield more than \$100bn (£60.7bn) a year for both sides.

When Mr Trump won the presidential election in November 2016, those hopes evaporated as he talked

stantiated claim that Mr Trump punctuated with the assertion his predecessor was "the sickest guy."

The resulting fallout derailed any momentum Mr Trump had gotten from the speech and put the West Wing back on the defensive.

It's far from the only moment when Mr Trump has squandered a brief era of goodwill. In June, he delivered an emotional address to the nation, after a shooting at a congressional baseball practice, and then, two days later, he took to Twitter to attack his own justice department, while declaring the Russia probe a "witch hunt."

And the day after he delivered a thunderous address, as he accepted his party's nomination for president at the 2016 Republican National Convention, Mr Trump turned what was supposed to be a brief thank you "volunteered into a scolding setting screed, relitigating the conspiracy theory that his rival, Ted Cruz's father had been involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The 37-year-old congressman has spent weeks crafting the State of the Union speech, seeking input from Cabinet heads and other officials. Led by policy adviser, Stephen Miller, and staff secretary, Rob Porter, the speech has gone through a number of drafts, which have circulated throughout the West Wing, and the president has added input with handwritten notes.

Mr Trump is expected to highlight immigration and national security issues, outline his hopes for new trade deals, and reveal some of his long-awaited infrastructure plans.

He then could, as his predecessors did, attempt to travel the country in support of those ideas. Odds are that Mr Trump will skip the trip for at least one night. All bets are off after that.

Mr Trump's speech will be broadcast at 2am (Irish time) tomorrow.



Joe Kennedy, Robert Kennedy's grandson, will deliver the Democratic Party response to US president Donald Trump's State of the Union address.

# Can Joe revive the Kennedys?

Bette Browne

The dream of another Kennedy in the White House endures for some Democrats. Tomorrow morning, the man who will put his name to their hopes, Congressman Joe Kennedy, will be thrust into the national spotlight.

He will put his vision of America against that of the president, Donald Trump.

The 37-year-old congressman has been chosen by his party to deliver the opposition response to the president's State of the Union address, before a prime-time TV audience. Kennedy's selection focuses on generational change and a progressive agenda, in an election year in which Democrats desperately want to seize congressional power from Trump's Republicans.

There are risks as well as rewards for the party's rising star, Kennedy, a three-term congressman for Massachusetts, grandson of the late Robert Kennedy and great-nephew of former president, John F. Kennedy, has embraced the role.

From healthcare to economic justice to civil rights, the Democratic agenda stands in powerful contrast to President Trump's broken promises to American families," he tweeted.

Obama's healthcare plan for Americans.

South Korea. His administration has also pulled out of a Pacific trade deal and is looking to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement.

EU chief spokesman Margaritis Schinas retorted that "the EU stands ready to react swiftly and appropriately in case our exports are affected by any restrictive trade measures from the United States".



Ted Kennedy: Granduncle of Joe.

Indeed, Kennedy is fast making a name for himself on social media, with his rousing speeches attacking Trump's agenda. He is also quick to seize on the Irish immigrant back-story of his forbears and the discrimination they faced when they arrived in America from famine-era Limerick and Wexford.

"Blasting Trump for the 'scapegoating of immigrant families', Kennedy recalled, in one speech, how his great-grandmother, Rose, once showed the famous old newspaper wanted ads with the words 'No Irish need apply'.

Kennedy's outspokenness sits well with Democratic voters in a country that is

becoming a cold place for immigrants, with arrests of illegal on the rise since Trump took office a year ago.

But while his youth and energy certainly project the right message for a party that desperately needs younger progressive candidates, the Kennedy name may work against him for some Americans, who believe the political dynasty has had its day.

But winners are always accumulating. Kennedy does well in responding to Trump, it will, undoubtedly, advance his climb up the ladder.

Even if he falters, however, he can still take heart from the fact that no matter how far the Kennedys fall, they always seem to rise again.

As his granduncle, Ted, proclaimed to the Democratic Convention in 1960, when he lost the party's nomination to Jimmy Carter: "The work has not been done, and the dream shall never die."

And 1980 happens to be the year that Joe Kennedy was born.

# EU 'ready to nit back' if president imposes unfair trade measures

Raf Casert

The EU has said it stands ready to hit back "swiftly and appropriately" if US president Donald Trump takes unfair trade measures against the 29-nation bloc.

The EU's warning came less than 24 hours after Mr Trump expressed annoyance with EU trade policy, saying the irritation "is not going into something very big".

about protecting American jobs and going against multilateral trade deals.

On Sunday, Mr Trump said in a British television interview that "the European Union has been very, very unfair to the United States, and I think it'll turn out to be very much to their detriment."

He insisted that his trade issues with the EU "may morph into something very big from that standpoint, from a trade standpoint."

In the past, Mr Trump has hinted at punitive measures against trading partners he thought were abusing the US market.

Last week he approved tariffs on imported solar energy components and large washing machines in a bid to help US manufacturers, particularly against competition from China and South Korea.

Overall, 229 women (93.9%) had at least one embryo transferred to their uterus, 104 (42.6%) achieved a clinical pregnancy (one that can be confirmed by ultrasound), and 99 (40.5%) gave birth to a live baby.

Women on a Mediterranean diet and receiving IVF treatment may be more likely to become pregnant.

Researchers asked women about their eating habits and found that those who ate more fresh vegetables, fruit, whole grains, legumes, fish and poultry, and less red meat, had the best outcomes from the treatment.

Women who had that diet had a 65% better chance of becoming pregnant and giving birth to a live baby than women with the lowest adherence to the Mediterranean-style diet.

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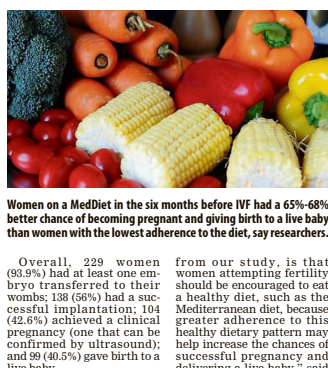
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"The important message, from our study, is that women attempting fertility should be encouraged to eat a healthy diet, such as the Mediterranean diet, because greater adherence to this healthy dietary pattern may help increase the chances of successful pregnancy and delivering a live baby," said Mr Yiannakou.

German government spokesman, Steffen Seibert, noted that Chancellor Angela Merkel set out in Davos last week why her government wants "an even stronger, more competitive, more self-confident EU that takes over even more international responsibility."

"But that is not directed against anyone, including the United States of America," he said.



# Medical cannabis activist in US dies

Dennis Peron, the cannabis activist who fired up the movement to legalise medical marijuana in California, has died in a San Francisco hospital. He was 72.

Also a prominent figure in San Francisco's gay community, he was a pioneer in recognising the health benefits of pot, during the height of the AIDS crisis, in the 1980s.

Mr Peron, a friend of murdered gay rights activist, Harvey Milk, helped push through a San Francisco ordinance that allowed the use of medical marijuana.

That was a precursor to the statewide legalisation of medical pot in 2016 and passage of California Proposition 215.

Today, medical marijuana is legal in most US states and Washington, DC.

Mr Peron suffered lung cancer and lost his partner, Jonathan West, in 1990. Born in New York, he was drafted in the late 1960s to serve in Vietnam, where he first took cannabis. In the early 1990s, he founded the San Francisco Cannabis Buyers' Club, the nation's first public marijuana dispensary. He was once shot in the leg by a police officer.

# Mediterranean diet linked to IVF success, study finds

Jennifer Cockerell

published in the journal *Human Reproduction*, focused on dietary patterns, rather than individual nutrients, that may be linked to IVF success.

It assessed the diet of 244 women, via a food frequency questionnaire, when they entered the IVF process in Athens, Greece, for their first IVF treatment.

The questionnaire asked them how often they ate certain groups of food in the six months before they were given a Mediet Score, which ranged from 0-55. Higher scores indicate greater adherence to the Mediterranean diet.

Researchers, led by associate professor, Nikos Yiannakou, at the department of

Analysis: 11

# 'No man's land' proposal for Myanmar

The Philippine defence chief has proposed a "no man's land" to avoid evacuating thousands of residents each time the country's most active volcano explodes.

He made a name for himself in the Philippines as a journalist and swing singer in the 1930s. He was arrested in 1943 (his mother was Jewish), and he was deported to the Theresienstadt concentration camp. There, he played in the Ghetto Swingers band.

# Jazz guitarist Schumann dies

Jazz guitarist, Heinz Jakob 'Coco' Schumann, who served in most US states and Washington, DC.

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Irish Examiner  
Tuesday, 30.01.2018

# Volkswagen exposed monkeys to toxic fume tests

**Maria Sheehan**  
Frankfurt

Volkswagen's supervisory board called for an immediate inquiry into who ordered scientific tests in which monkeys were exposed to toxic diesel fumes, while the German government said such studies were unjustified.

"I will do everything possible to ensure that this matter is investigated in detail within a month after the general board chairman Hans

Dieter Poetsch said in a statement.

"Whoever is responsible for this must, of course, be held accountable," he added.

German carmakers used the European Research Group on Environment and Health in the Transport Sector, also known as EUGT, to commission the tests, the *New York Times* reported.

The study, conducted in 2014, was designed to defend itself following revelations that the fuel's exhaust fumes

were carcinogenic, the paper reported.

Reuters could not immediately confirm the details and purpose of the study and a representative for EUGT, which was dissolved last year, could not be reached for comment.

EUGT received all of its funding from Volkswagen, and fellow German carmakers Daimler and BMW, the report said.

It remains unclear whether the carmakers were

aware of monkeys being used in the experiments.

Volkswagen, Daimler and BMW denounced the study, whose revelation is the latest aftershock from the Volkswagen emissions-rigging scandal, which continues to rock the auto industry.

On Sunday, the German daily *Stuttgarter Zeitung* reported that EUGT also sponsored scientific studies testing nitrogen dioxide, a gas found in exhaust fumes, on people.

It said around 25 healthy young people inhaled nitrogen dioxide in varying doses over a period of hours at an institute belonging to Aachen University in Germany.

The German government said that any auto emissions testing on monkeys or people were unjustified.

"These tests on monkeys or even people are in no ethical way justifiable and raise many critical questions about those who are behind

the tests," government spokesman Steffen Seibert told a regular government news conference in Berlin.

Stephan Weil, who represents the German state of Lower Saxony, a VW shareholder, on the supervisory board, said the board was pressing the carmaker to urgently provide information about what the aim of the studies was.

"At the end of the day, the purpose of all experiments is the decisive factor. If for

example, safety and health in the workplace were being tested, as Aachen University has suggested, and ethical standards were adhered to, it is defensible," Mr Weil told a news conference.

"Where experiments served the purposes of marketing and sales, however, I do not see an acceptable justification for such an approach."

Aachen University had no immediate comment.

Reuters

## Pope Francis: 'Indifference on anti-Semitism is a virus.'

Pope Francis has called on European countries to do more to fight anti-Semitism, saying indifference on the issue was a virus that could allow the ideas of racial hatred to spread.

## Bartra: I feared death in blast

Borussia Dortmund defender Marc Bartra has told the trial of a man accused of bombing the football team's bus last year that he was afraid of dying in the attack.

The April 11 blasts shattered a window of the bus and hit Bartra with shrapnel, leaving the team without the Spanish defender for about a month after he had to undergo surgery on a broken bone in his wrist.

## Suspected killer faces more charges

A suspected serial killer has been charged with three more killings by Toronto police after human remains were found in gardens the accused had worked in.

Officers in the Canadian city believe more victims could be found after charges were brought against landscape gardener Bruce McArthur.

## Romania approves first female PM

Romania's parliament has confirmed Viorica Dancila, 54, as its first female prime minister and the country's third head of government in a year.

Ms Dancila won by 282 votes to 136 for more than the 253 votes she needed to lead Romania's current left-wing government, which the EU has criticised over legislation on civil say will make it hard to prosecute high-level corruption.

## Banksy artwork to be protected

A protective layer will be put over a new Banksy artwork, which appeared on a disused Hull bridge but was defaced. The picture of a young boy in the familiar Banksy style is painted along with the slogan "Draw The Raised Bridge" appeared on the Scott Street bridge over the River Hull last week. But over the weekend, it was covered with white paint, which was later cleaned off by local window cleaner Jason Farnhope.

## John von Radowicz

Smoke from e-cigarettes damages DNA and can increase cancer risk, scientists have warned.

The battery-driven devices, which deliver an instant nicotine "hit" without burning tobacco, have been widely promoted as a safer alternative to cigarettes.

But findings from a new study suggest they are far from harmless, and could

## Brook wishes she had children in 20s

Kelly Brook has said she wishes she had children in her 20s because she "regrets" going against it "now she's 38".

The model and TV presenter, who said she's "now unsure if she will be able to become a mother, also opened up about losing a baby when six months pregnant several years ago.

## More women join headscarf protests in Iran

At least five women in Iran have protested against the mandatory headscarf by taking their shirts and waving them on streets.

Women showing their hair in public can be jailed for up to two months and fined \$25 (£20).

The Islamic dress code, in place since the 1979 revolution, considers veiling obligatory for any female above 13 in Iran and says they should cover themselves from head to toe while disavowing any figure-hugging dress.

## Patagonia park expansion

A view of Patagonia Park, where Chile's president signed decrees yesterday creating vast new national parks using lands donated by the Tompkins Conservation, in what is believed to be the largest private donation of land ever from a private entity to a country.

## Shipwreck loot to be exhibited

More than \$50m (£40m) worth of gold bars and coins, lost in a hurricane in 1857, are now being exhibited at a museum in California.

The 3,100 gold coins, 45 gold bars, and more than 90 pounds (36kg) of gold dust recovered from the wreckage of the SS Central America steamship are now sitting in a makeshift laboratory just south of Los Angeles.

## Boys arrested after hitting teacher

Miami police have arrested a seven-year-old boy accused of hitting his teacher.

The *Miami Herald* cited a police report stating Miami Alvarez's son was arrested last Thursday for hitting the teacher.

The first-grader was then hospitalized for a psychiatric evaluation and later discharged.

## Boy arrested after hitting teacher

WSN-TV quotes a police report as stating the child was taken out of the cafeteria for playing with his food.

The teacher's complaint against the boy was repeated by the teacher by repeatedly punching her on the back until the two fell to the



Chief scientist Bob Evans looks at gold bars recovered from the S.S. Central America steamship that went down in a hurricane in 1857 in a laboratory in Santa Ana, California.

## Soldiers at risk over fitness app GPS data

Publication by Strava of jogging routes 'can endanger military'.

Alastair Reid

The locations of military bases and soldiers around the world have been inadvertently published by a fitness app.

A heatmap of GPS data recorded by Strava, a mobile app which allows users to track their jogging routes, shows active and stationary military bases, suggesting users are soldiers on active duty.

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A 1989 photo of loot from the SS Central America.

Coins, removing those objects and those substances and getting to look at the treasure as it was in 1857."

The Central America was laden with booty from the California Gold Rush when it sank in a hurricane off the coast of South Carolina in 1857. Some 425 people drowned and thousands of pounds of gold were lost, contributing to an economic panic.

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John von Radowicz

Smoke from e-cigarettes damages DNA and can increase cancer risk, scientists have warned.

The battery-driven devices, which deliver an instant nicotine "hit" without burning tobacco, have been widely promoted as a safer alternative to cigarettes.

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E-cigs have been promoted as safer alternative to cigarettes.



The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists has provided factual medial information on controversial claims surrounding abortion in incidences of Down syndrome

# Downs concerns and claims are misleading

The Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists has issued information which it says will provide "factual background" to the debate around the proposal to repeat the Eighth Amendment.

The move comes in the wake of politicians such as Fianna Fáil TD Jim O'Callaghan and Independent senator Konán Mullen raising concerns that allowing terminations up to 12 weeks would increase the rate of abortion among foetuses with Down syndrome and other disabilities.

Anti-abortion campaign group Love Both group has used images of children with Down syndrome in pamphlets delivered to people's homes, leading to Down Syndrome Ireland and a number of parents, including former Republic of Ireland footballer Kevin Kilbane, to issue statements asking that children with Down syndrome not be used in the debate on the repeal of the Eighth Amendment.

"We are respectfully asking both sides of the campaign debate, all political parties, and any other interested groups to stop exploiting children and adults with Down syndrome to promote their campaign views," said Down Syndrome Ireland.

Institute chair Peter Boylan, former master of the National Maternity Hospital, claimed there was "a lot of misinformation out there, so we felt it was reasonable to inform the debate". He said that while it is not impossible to diagnose a baby with Down syndrome 12 weeks into a pregnancy, it is very rare.

The institute is the national professional and training body for obstetrics and gynaecology. Members are drawn from maternity units across the country.

■ **When do women in Ireland first book for antenatal care?**  
-> Typically when they are between 12 and 20 weeks pregnant.

■ **What type of antenatal care and services can they access?**  
->> During this time, women who are pregnant will visit a midwife and have a basic scan and blood tests. These tests are not to screen for abnormalities but, in very rare cases, abnormalities can be observed. This is what is offered through the public health system. Women who access private healthcare services can obtain a scan earlier than 12 weeks.

■ **What screening tests are available and how can they be accessed?**  
-> A screening test is different from a diagnostic test. A screening test (such as ultrasound) raises the possibility of an abnormality. A diagnostic test would be subsequently required if necessary.

Much of the recent debate has focused on Trisomy 21 (Down syndrome), a chromosomal abnormality. There are two ways to screen for Trisomy 21. Firstly, an abdominal or transvaginal ultrasound is performed to measure the thickness of the nuchal fold, the nuchal fetal neck (nuchal translucency) and to confirm the duration of the pregnancy. This may be performed from 11 to just less than 14 weeks. In parallel, a blood



Peter Boylan, chairman of the Institute of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and former master of the National Maternity Hospital, has addressed inaccuracies concerning Down syndrome and repeal of the Eighth Amendment during a Joint Committee meeting on the Eighth Amendment.   
Pic: Gareth Chaney Collins

“[There is] a lot of misinformation out there, so we felt it was reasonable to inform the debate

test between 10 and 13 weeks measures particular proteins in the mother's blood. The combined results of the blood test and scan will give assessment of the degree of risk of a chromosomal abnormality, (for example 1:600 or a 1 in 600 chance). It is important to state that this is not a diagnosis.

A second method of screening is a blood test to analyse free fetal DNA in the mother's blood stream. This test (for example, Harmony, Panorama) can be performed from nine weeks onwards. These tests cost upwards of €500 and are not funded by the State, which is

an obvious limiting factor for many women. Even if organised via the public system, women still have to pay for it. There is no facility in Ireland to analyse the samples so they have to be sent to the UK or the USA for analysis. Results are generally available within two weeks. These tests are not 100% reliable and so a further, diagnostic, test must be performed to confirm or refute the diagnosis.

■ **How can women access these screening tests?**  
-> In the public health system, a

screening test is either requested by the woman or is offered to them by their doctor. Those who avail of private healthcare can request a screening test be carried out earlier than 12 weeks, usually after 10 weeks. In either case the results of these screening tests are rarely available within 12 weeks.

■ **How is a diagnosis made?**  
-> Diagnosis is made by way of chorion villous sampling (CVS), where a small sample is taken from the developing placenta and is usually analysed in the UK, as the facilities for this test do

not exist in Ireland. This stage takes at least three working days. It should be noted that CVS has a risk of causing miscarriage in 1% of procedures and women may or may not elect to have this test. It is clear therefore that diagnosis of chromosomal abnormality, while technically possible, can rarely or realistically be achieved before 12 weeks. To suggest, therefore, that disability will be eliminated by enacting legislation in line with the recommendations of the Oireachtas committee is misleading.

## Further problems ahead if US can't alter Pakistan's behaviour

US President Donald Trump's recent decision to freeze some \$2bn (€1.6bn) in security assistance to Pakistan as punishment for the country's refusal to crack down on transnational terrorist groups is a step in the right direction. But more steps are needed.

The US has plenty of incentive to put pressure on Pakistan, a country that has long pretended to be an ally, even as it continues to aid the militant groups fighting and killing US soldiers in neighbouring Afghanistan.

In fact, it is partly because of that aid that Afghanistan is a failed state, leaving the US mired in the longest war in its history.

More than 16 years after the US invaded Afghanistan, its capital Kabul has come under siege, exemplified by the recent terrorist attack on Kabul's Intercontinental Hotel, the suicide bombing using an explosives-laden van, in the city centre and the attack on a military barracks yesterday morning.

In recent months, the US has launched a major air offensive to halt the rapid advance of the Afghan Taliban. The US has not hesitated to use more airstrikes since last August than in 2015 and 2016 combined.

Yet neither the air blitz nor the Trump administration's deployment of 3,000 additional US troops can reverse the deteriorating security situation in Afghanistan.

To achieve that, Pakistan would have to dismantle the cross-border sanctuaries used by the Taliban and its ally, the Haqqani network, as well as their command-and-control operations, which are based on Pakistani territory.

As the US military commander in Afghanistan, General John Nicholson, has acknowledged: "It's very difficult to succeed on the battlefield when your enemy enjoys external support and safe

The US must punish Pakistan for its duplicity as it claims to be an ally of America while harbouring terrorists at the same time, writes

**Brahma Chellaney**



haven." The problem is that Pakistan's powerful military, whose generals dictate terms to a largely impotent civilian government, seems committed to protecting, and even nurturing, terrorists on Pakistani soil.

Only those militants who threaten Pakistan are targeted by the country's Inter-Services Intelligence agency.

Far from holding Pakistan's generals accountable for the American blood on their hands, the US has provided them large amounts of funding — so much, in fact, that Pakistan has been one of America's largest aid recipients.

Even when the US found Osama bin Laden, after a 10-year hunt, holed up in a compound next to Pakistan's main military academy, it did not meaningfully alter its carrot-only strategy.

This has enabled the military to tighten its grip on Pakistan further, frustrating domestic efforts to bring about a genuine democratic transition. Making matters worse, the US has disavowed its ally India — a major tar-

get of Pakistan-supported terrorists — from imposing any sanctions on the country.

Instead, US administrations have pressured India to engage diplomatically with Pakistan, including through secret meetings between Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's national security adviser and his Pakistani counterpart in Bangkok and elsewhere.

This approach has emboldened Pakistan-based terrorists to carry out cross-border attacks on targets from Mumbai to Kashmir. As for the US, the White House's new National Security Strategy confirms that America "continues to face threats from transnational terrorists and militants operating from within Pakistan."

This conclusion echoes then-secretary of state Hillary Clinton's warning in 2009 that Pakistan "poses a mortal threat to the security and safety of our country and the world."

Against this background, the Trump administration's acknowledgement of US policy failure in Pakistan is good news.

But history suggests that simply suspending security aid — economic assistance and military training are set to continue — will not be enough to bring about meaningful change in Pakistan (which also counts China and Saudi Arabia among its benefactors).

One additional step the US could take would be to label Pakistan as a state sponsor of terrorism.

If the US prefers not to do so, it should at least strip Pakistan of its status, acquired in 2004, as a major non-Nato ally, thereby ending its preferential access to American weapons and technologies.

Moreover, the US should impose targeted sanctions, including asset freezes on senior military officers who maintain particularly close ties to terrorists. With the children of many Pakistani military officers living in the US, it

would also be worth barring these families from the country.

Finally, the US should take advantage of its enduring position as Pakistan's largest export market to tighten the economic screws on the cash-strapped country.

Since 2013, Pakistan has attempted to offset the sharp decline in its foreign-exchange reserves by raising billions of dollars in dollar-denominated debt with 10-year bonds. Pakistan's efforts to stave off default create leverage that the US should use.

Likewise, Pakistan agreed to privatise 68 state-run companies, in exchange for \$6.7bn in credit from the IMF. If the US extended financial and trade sanctions to multilateral lending, and suspended supplies of military spare parts, it would gain another effective means of bringing Pakistan to heel.

To be sure, Pakistan could respond to such sanctions by blocking America's overland access to Afghanistan, thereby increasing the cost of resupplying its military-dominated economy.

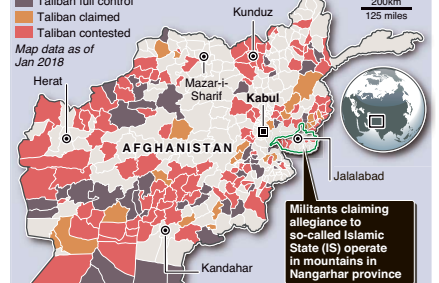
But, as Pakistan learned in 2011-2012, such a move would hurt its own economy, especially its military-dominated trucking industry. Meanwhile, the added cost to the US would be lower than America's military reimbursements to Pakistan in the last year, which covered, among other things, resupply routes and the country's supposed counterterrorism operations.

If Pakistan abandons its double game of claiming to be a US ally while harbouring terrorists, the US will need to stop rewarding it for offering, as Trump put it, "nothing but lies and deceit."

More than that, the US will need to punish Pakistan for its duplicity. And US policymakers must act soon, or an increasingly fragile Pakistan could well be transformed from a state sponsor of terrorism into a state sponsored by terrorists.

### Recent wave of attacks in Afghanistan

A raid on a military academy in Kabul that killed 11 soldiers is the fourth major attack in a surge of violence over the past nine days



- **Jan 29, 2018:** Militants attack army base near military academy in Kabul, killing at least 11 soldiers and wounding 16. IS claims responsibility
- **Jan 27:** Taliban attacker drives ambulance filled with explosives into heart of Kabul, killing at least 103 people and wounding as many as 235
- **Jan 23:** IS militants storm office of Save the Children aid agency in Jalalabad, killing three staff members and at least two other people
- **Jan 20:** Taliban militants storm Intercontinental Hotel in Kabul, killing 22 people including 14 foreigners, and battling security forces in 13-hour siege

■ Brahma Chellaney, professor of strategic studies at the New Delhi-based Center for Policy Research and Fellow at the Robert Bosch Academy in Berlin, is the author of nine books, including *Asian Juggernaut*. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2018.

Brian Maguire returned from Aleppo intent on painting the reality of what he'd seen in the Syrian city, writes Alan O'Riordan

# Bearing witness through art



**T**HE ever-increasing complexity of the Syrian war, and the difficulty this presented for news reporting, was crystallised during the Syrian army's final assault on east Aleppo, between late 2015 and early 2016, which ended with Damascus re-establishing control and tens of thousands of people being evacuated, mostly to areas held by the Assad regime.

The Syrian war has been the YouTube war. And thanks to this, Western viewers saw a steady feed of compelling first-hand reports of people inside the besieged enclaves of Aleppo — places too dangerous for Western journalists to go.

What was seen was not untrue — people were killed, people went hungry, the sick lacked medicine, bombs were dropped without discrimination on residential buildings. But it was inevitably a selective view. It hid the intractable tragedy of this war for Syrians — that there are no good choices, few if any good actors.

It was into this complex territory that the artist Brian Maguire went, both physically and metaphorically, for War Changes Its Address, his series of paintings based on his visit to Aleppo last spring.

The paintings are a first-hand account of the devastation of war. They are, in that sense, mute witnesses to atrocity. Being in a room with one of his large canvases is an invitation to see another dimension in what has become a sadly familiar landscape of urban destruction.

Seeing these shells of buildings reimagined as art, outside of the context of daily news bulletins, is to reconsider them, to empathise, to imaginatively engaged with a scale of the loss that sometimes is easier to ignore.

Of course, you can't escape the complexity of Syria easily, as Maguire found out amid criticism of statements he made in the run-up to this and a previous show, where he criticised Western media coverage, or quoted people he'd met and the difficult truths they had told him. As we meet at IMMA, on the eve of the show's opening, there is something of a controversy brewing. The Wicklow-born artist would later release a statement affirming he is "not a propagandist", and that these paintings are in no way political or partisan but demonstrate the aftermath and futility of war and the destruction of civil society.

## CAUTIOUS APPROACH

For now, he appears careful and somewhat cautious. I mention to him his quoting of a young female student who had told him: "The Syrian Army saved us."

"I may not have been as clear as I should have been," he says, "but this is the truth. It's what I heard... but it's a bit of a rough f\*cking truth for someone who has fled Assad, maybe is living here, God knows if they have a job or not, or what is being done for them. For that person to read that, out of context, is provocative. When I said it, I wasn't thinking of that person. Maybe I should not have said it, but it did happen. She was real. She was a young master's student."

He reflects on the point for a while as he walks through the gallery's rooms. He then continues: "I heard someone tell me something she heard in Lebanon and I'm beginning to see the wisdom of it. 'In Lebanon,' she said, 'someone would tell you a story on Monday and it's true. They would come along on Tuesday and tell you the opposite, and it's also true. That's the problem. There is no fixed truth."

## One of Brian Maguire's paintings of Aleppo, currently on display at IMMA.

"So what do you do? I went and looked at the result of the battle. And here it is. I'm hoping it will focus people's mind on what aerial bombardment and tunnel bombs do. I'm not trying to change the world, I'm just trying to see it."

Maguire's urge to artistically bear witness has taken him far and wide:



Brian Maguire, artist.

to the violent Mexican city of Ciudad Juarez, the favelas of Brazil, to South Sudan, into jails in several countries, including Ireland, where he painted portraits of loyalist and republican prisoners.

"I know sectarian conflict," he says, "the complete tragedy of that, how the local conditions determine what young men will do. I've been around conflict. I'm not saying I'm an expert on anything, other than

painting, but I know that when you make a portrait of somebody you show respect for them. When you make a portrait of a city, you show respect for a city. These paintings are acts of respect, they are not determining why it happened. I'm not qualified to determine how or why it happened. This is very difficult territory. It's easy for me to say media gives a false view, but it's not my job to do that. There are enough journalists around."

## ARTIST'S IMPRESSION

So what does a painter bring, if we allow Maguire simply to speak from that position?

"You can't make images with digital information. I have to physically go and talk to people, be in the space, wherever that is, be it South Sudan, Juarez, Syria... It is necessary to go there. I wanted to make something that would show the destruction, but which would also be very beautiful and which will hopefully last."

"The work might last for the next generation, but that is for the next generation to decide. If it also pictures survive, it says someone here in

northern Europe paid attention to something that was happening in the Middle East, and recorded that, not as propaganda, or political work, but as artwork."

"You have a professional life and you have a life as a citizen," he adds. "No doctor brings his politics into his treatment room. So all I'm asking is you give me the same space. I've always left my politics outside prisons. How else could you work with the UDA, the UVF and they shooting each other in that feud in 99? I was trusted by both sides."

In Mexico he worked with the women victims of violence, but still did a workshop in the local prison. "I don't know if it's compartmentalisation or whatever. But my personal experiences are hostages to fortune. I know that."

The Aleppo show opened on Friday to a packed gallery. A man was seen crying before the largest of the paintings. A sad sight, but one that attests to the success of Maguire's work.

■ Brian Maguire, War Changes Its Address: The Aleppo Paintings is at Imma in Dublin until May 6

I know sectarian conflict, the complete tragedy of that, how the local conditions determine what young men will do

## Six things we learned at Sundance

Barry Keoghan led the Irish charge at the prestigious film festival in Utah, writes Helen Barlow

**1 Barry is brilliant**  
Barry Keoghan was one of the first Irish success stories of the festival with *American Animals*, the gripping real life tale of a group of Kentucky university students who were ill prepared for the robbery they devised in 2004.

With Keoghan singled out for praise as being "ever more intriguing" by *Variety*, he plays Spencer Reinhard, who with his best friend Warren Lipka (Evan Peters) set out to rob the special collections library, which notably includes original editions of John James Audubon's extraordinary *Birds of America*, as well as a unique Darwin volume.

How on earth were they going to offload them, you may ask? The clever idea here was how director Bart Layton interviews interviews with the real men with the actors who play them.

**2 Gabriel Byrne twists and turns**

As if there are twists and turns in *Hereditary*, Ari Aster's debut feature which screened in the scarier Midnight section, and surprisingly went away empty-handed in the awards, Gabriel Byrne plays the husband of Toni Collette who was singled out for praise in this story of a woman dealing with the death of her distant mother. As it happens there are skeletons rattling around in the family history.

Neither actor made it to Utah but Collette told *Variety* how she felt about it. "I really contemplated it a while before I started. I might have even run the other way... But in a sense, we're really lucky to be here, because that was like twisting myself inside out."

**3 Chris O'Dowd is back on form**

On a lighter note, Chris O'Dowd appears in the Nick Hornby adaptation, *The Romantic*



From left, Barry Keoghan and his girlfriend Shona Guerin at Sundance; Chris O'Dowd; a scene from US feature winner *The Misadventure of Cameron Post*.



**4 Salem stories can still scare**

The biggest sale of the festival (\$10 million) was for a film in the Midnight section, *Assassination Nation*, directed by Sam Levinson, son of Barry. Placing the Salem witch hunts in a contemporary setting, the story has the quiet Massachusetts town losing its mind after a monstrous hack, where the sexual proclivities of its inhabitants are revealed.

A gang of vigilantes take matters into their own hands but the girls they accuse stand up to them. *IndieWire* calls it "A deranged teen-revenge movie for the #MeToo age". It's certainly thought-provoking—and a little scary.

**5 Netflix makes its mark**

Netflix had a slew of entries at the festival including *A Futile and Stupid Gesture*, and *Domhnall Gleeson* was on hand to promote the movie, which started streaming on Friday for subscribers in Ireland.

Critics called the Irish actor incredibly versatile given his wide array of roles of late, and they are not wrong.

The film is a tribute to the late *National Lampoon* co-founder Doug Kenney (Will Forte) and Gleeson plays Henry Beard, his buddy at Harvard where it all began.

"The history of *National Lampoon* didn't mean anything to me really because *Monty Python* would have been more the thing when I was growing up," Gleeson told me in Sundance.

"I kind of skipped the *Saturday Night Live* thing when I went to Jim Carrey and Will Ferrell and people like that, so I was not aware as much of the *National Lampoon* or *Animal House* — even though the comedians I love were influenced by them."

"So it was nice to see they were the inspiration that led to all these amazing things and now I love it."

**6 Tale of gay conversion wins big**

The all-important Grand Jury Prize for best US feature film went to *The Misadventure of Cameron Post* about a teenage girl who is sent to a gay conversion centre.

"We want to dedicate this award to the LGBTQ survivors of sexual conversation therapy," said the film's star Chloë Grace Moretz in accepting the win for the film which is based on 2012 novel by Emily M Danforth.

Derek Doneen's *Kalash*, about 2014 Nobel Prize winner Kailash Satyarthi's fight to end child slavery in India, was named the US Documentary Grand Jury prize-winner.

## The Tuesday poem

### Dodo

By Silke Scheuermann

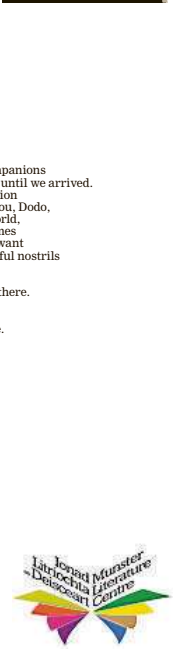
(translated from the German by Patrick Cotter)

It's true, you can be too much a dreamer to survive. Always, as in paradise, your companions were exclusively friendly life forms. Well — until we arrived. God gave us anger, this overwhelming emotion without purpose or benefits, and appetite. You, Dodo, then quickly disappeared, into this other world. Alice tried forever, to learn Wonderland games from you. But that is not enough for us, we want you back again. Cute, naive, with your faithful nostrils to the ground. We think of you as a harmless comrade for our children. Believe me: we are almost there. Dodo, you will be born again as in the day the sunlit. I promise you: You will be among the first ones we recreate.



■ One of Germany's leading young poets, Silke Scheuermann will perform at the www.corkpoetry.fest.net next month.

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# LIFE/STYLE

Tuesday, 30 January, 2018

**I**N JANUARY 2016 I was approached by a documentary maker, Kim Barley from Frontline Films, after I spoke from the audience of *Clair Byrne Live* on RTE One. Kim was interested in making a documentary with me. I was studying print journalism at Ballyfermot College at the time, and it sounded like a great opportunity.

I was nervous about sharing my own story though. As we began to map out how the documentary would look and feel, I knew it would mean revisiting a lot of old memories, a lot of painful memories. We decided I would go back to my old community, speak to people from my past, and try to build a picture of what I had gone through during my 17 long years of heroin and methadone addiction. I was excited about the project, but my heart was full of joy and sadness, all at the same time.

I remember the first few interviews we did for the documentary. I remember I slept a lot in the days after those interviews due to revisiting my past. But my motivation to do the documentary was strong. Having been through what I'd been through I felt I had a powerful message to deliver — by sharing my experience I wanted people to understand that the current perception of addiction in society is actually harming the person in addiction.

The stigma associated with addiction prevents people from reaching out for help. It criminalises and punishes very vulnerable, very sick drug addicts. The State is at last beginning to change its approach to addiction from a criminal one to a health-led approach and I want to highlight what an important shift this is.

**My private prison**

I grew up in a deprived inner-city block of flats known as Fatima Mansions during the 1980s and 1990s. There were eight children in our family, I am the second oldest. I have great memories of Fatima. Families shared what they had and were there for each other. For me, the soundtrack from that time is lots of children playing with each other, the sound you'd hear passing a national school at lunchtime. There was lots of laughing and crying, especially between the women. Laughter was regarded as very important, as it was a way of dealing with and accepting what couldn't be changed, but it was also a sign of strength. Most of all, I remember that I was loved by everybody who lived there.

There were about 500 families who lived in Fatima Mansions during the 1980s. It was a vivacious, vibrant community. However, the drug epidemic was on the rise during that time. I witnessed very little drug taking during my childhood other than people smoking hash at the gram sheds (as they were called back then). I was an ill child growing up.

I had a congenital heart defect, and physically, I was weak. Because of that I was very protected and I could only play where my mother could see me, playing or skipping nearby. Eventually, when I was 10, I received much needed and long-awaited open-heart surgery, which finally allowed me to be a normal child and run around with the others, joining in all the

A new documentary looks at the degradation of deprived communities and what drug addicts have suffered because of stigma during the Celtic Tiger era. It's about how many families buried so many of their children because of drug addiction, writes **Ann Buckley**



A scene from the TV3 documentary 'My War on Drugs': Ann Buckley chats with Dawn Russell from the Ana Liffey drugs project.

# My war on drugs

**I remember the first time I tasted heroin... I smoked it after my friend said, 'It will get rid of the pain'**

games and being one of the gang. It was a big change and a big relief for me.

My mother worked as a cleaner in St James's Hospital where she took a lot of pride in her work. Because she worked there, she needed my help to take care of my brothers and sisters. We made a great team for many years. However, the responsibility of all of that definitely took its toll on my mental development. As a teenager, I began drifting away from my mother. I began to rebel, and to be honest I wanted to be miles away from Fatima Mansions. The only problem was, I didn't

know how to get away. I do remember my dreams though: I remember them so vividly. They were to go to college, to learn how to write, to learn about music and art, and all of those things. But my self-esteem was very low by then and these dreams of mine were not seen as reality; they certainly wouldn't put food on the table — or at least so I believed at the time.

Fast-forward to the early 1990s, and the explosion of Dublin's inner-city heroin epidemic. By then I was a young teenager, just 14, and the heroin epidemic was escalating. In fact, it was fast running out of control in

deprived communities like Fatima. The Concerned Parents Against Drugs Movement (CPAD) took hold. Inner-city parents became active in trying to prevent drug dealing in their communities. It was a frightening time for drug users and small-time dealers. Regular beatings occurred of drug addicts who sold drugs to support their habit, but who were far removed from the kingpins making millions off the misery of Fatima's children.

School ended for me when I was 16. Just one girl out of my class of 32 children managed to sit her Leaving Cert. I wanted to stay in school but

communication wasn't great between the school and my parents. I was misbehaving and I got suspended. I guess I fell through the cracks. After school was gone I got my first job in a sewing factory. This certainly wasn't for me, so I left after getting sick due to the conditions of the factory; there was no ventilation and it was very cramped.

There was a part of me that could always see injustice around me. I began to sleep a lot and found my energy levels were low. I now know I was crippled with anxiety. My little brother Marc had died in a drowning accident when he was only eight and now I know that I was suffering from teenage depression partly because of that. There were other things bringing it on too, a lack of intellectual stimulation, very little guidance or a view of a future.

During my late teens, my friends became very important to me. I spent a lot of time standing on the stairwells of the flats while my friends smoked cannabis.

**'It'll get rid of the pain...'**

I remember the first time I tasted heroin — it was called China white. I was 18. I smoked it and my friend said, "It will get rid of the pain". For me, this meant getting rid of my emotional pain and lack of purpose or joy, or of any real future.

I vomited the first time I tried heroin but after getting sick I felt at ease. I was 'I said or became an addict. My chest rested and I didn't need to think of my future — or lack of one. This dependence on heroin lasted for 10 years. With seven more on methadone until I tried committing suicide.

Eventually, I got into a recovery programme, beginning with a bed in a six-week detox unit at the Cuan Dara Cherry Orchard Hospital in Ballyfermot. After that, I went onto the HSE-run Keltio residential rehab centre in En Phoenix Park for a cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) programme.

The documentary that I've made with Kim is about the degradation of deprived communities and what drug addicts have suffered because of stigma during the Celtic Tiger era. It's about how many families buried so many of their children because of drug addiction.

I hope that communities like mine will never again suffer State abandonment, neglect and stigmatisation due to an economic class system that doesn't have its origins in Ireland's roots. The hope is that this will never happen again.

I hope the documentary will open people's eyes that most, if not all, of those suffering from the illness of addiction are most likely suffering from deeper traumas due to poverty, inequality, or family-related trauma. I really believe that if we open up opportunities for equal access of participation to people across all demographics this will heal and save lives. It will be better for all our communities, and better for Ireland.

**My War On Drugs: True Lives** airs on TV3 on Wednesday, January 31, at 9pm.

# MAKING CENTS

**Sensible shopping can save you up to €2,000 a year**

**K**EN HUGHES is an expert in marketing to happen and the customer experience and he believes Irish consumers could make major savings on their weekly grocery shop with a little effort. Normally focused on maximising how people shop, he is currently working with SuperValu to educate shoppers. "Usually I work on the other side of the equation. As a shopping psychologist I design stores and brands to make people buy more, so SuperValu have brought me on board to do the opposite."

In bad news for shoppers who like to wing it, Mr Hughes said: "The worst thing you can do is arrive at a supermarket without a plan."

"Only buying what you need sounds so simple but the majority of shoppers don't check their fridge and freezer, their presses, they don't actually have a plan of what they are going to cook for the week," he said. "Then when you walk into the store environment you tend to walk up and down the aisles and grab things you always grab, you tend to over-buy. Even with this tip alone, you could probably save 15% to 20%."

Checking what you already have is a good start, but sitting down with a

list of the special offers available that week and making a meal plan around them will take savings to the next level.

"It depends on how regimental you want to get as a consumer. You can take stock of your food at home, check the promotional leaflet for the meat and veg offers and decide, based on the offers, what you are going to make for the week. Then you only buy the bits that you need. It can be very productive."

Mr Hughes also believes that when it comes to grocery shopping, it is best to ignore the consumer finance mantras "shop around".

"There is a myth that if you shop around you get better value — you hear it a lot about insurance and utilities," he said. "It does make sense if price is the only issue, but psychologically you buy more when you visit stores more, because every time you go into a new store you are tempted by something new at some point."

"If you are jumping into a couple of stores, a bit here and a basket there, basically you are exposing yourself to temptation more regularly. We are only human so every time you go, you might be a bit hungry, or you might have the kids with you one day, there



are going to be purchases that you didn't necessarily need."

Instead, he favours the tradition of the big weekly shop. His next tip is to actually have a budget, something he believes the majority of people claim to have but actually do not.

"They have an idea of what they should be spending but a budget is something that you won't go over. You wouldn't let a builder doing an extension in your house work away and spend whatever — it should be the same with the food budget. If you want to save say €2,000 on your budget this year, for whatever reason, you need to be a bit more regimental."

He suggests leaving the cards at home and bring only the cash you have budgeted to the supermarket. The possibility of having to return something because you do not have enough when you reach the till will force you to keep track of prices. Make sure to include treats, having a budget does not mean no indulgences, it means allowing for them in the plan.

"Another thing to think about is own brand," he said. "We have a culture of thinking of own-brand as cheap and nasty but those days are so far behind us now. In SuperValu some of the range have won Blas na hÉireann awards. The own-brand can be as good or better than the branded alternative."

If you find sticking to your list difficult, or have to shop with the kids who push for impulse purchases, he also recommends shopping online. SuperValu has announced its new lower prices initiative 'Make Savings' which sees prices drop on hundreds of own brand products. Mr Hughes suggests shoppers can keep an eye out for green and yellow stickers in store: "It'll add up fast, switching products could save you up to €40 on a full trolley shop."

Consumer advice with **Gráinne McGuinness**

**DEAL OF THE WEEK**

In addition to their 'Make Savings' initiative, SuperValu is working to improve their customer rewards programme by making it possible to collect points with a growing list of partners. Regular shoppers collect points at the till using the Real Rewards programme but can also be rewarded when shopping online, using their credit card and paying utility bills.

Electric Ireland and others are both affiliated with SuperValu, so you link your account you can earn extra points when paying for your electricity, internet, electricity or gas.

Holiday-makers can earn extra points if they fly with Aer Lingus or use SuperValu's Getaway Breaks and also if they book through bookies.com, Expedia or hotels.com.

Points can also be collected when shopping online with a range of more than 130 brands, including Debenhams, Apple, Amazon, Expedia, Groupm and Currys.

Get full details at [www.supervalu.ie/rewards](http://www.supervalu.ie/rewards).

**If there are any consumer issues that you'd like Gráinne to address or if you have problems that Gráinne could help with, she can be contacted at [makingcents@examiner.ie](mailto:makingcents@examiner.ie)**

# Business

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## Apple to halve iPhone X production target

Apple will halve its iPhone X production target for the first three months of the year to around 20 million units, the *Asian Nikkei* publishing company has reported, sending its shares down around 2.6% at one stage in the listing session.

The report added to growing concerns around weak sales of the \$999 (€800) phone, making investors jittery about the company's financial outlook when it reports first-quarter results on Thursday. Apple shares fell to their lowest level in 2018, knocking off \$14bn (£11.26bn) from the company's market value.

"Apple earnings should handily beat December quarter expectations, but March guidance could moderately disappoint," said UBS analysts.

The production cut was prompted by slower-than-expected sales in the holiday shopping season in Europe, the US, and China, the

Japanese newspaper reported, without citing a source. For US and markets worldwide, a lot is riding on the success of tech companies, which report earnings in the coming days.

The sector accounts for more than a fifth of the S&P 500, meaning that stocks like Apple, Microsoft, and Amazon, which are the three largest holdings, could have a larger impact on markets as a whole. At Apple, all eyes will be on the iPhone and

more specifically, how the more expensive iPhone X is faring.

iPhone X was the first phone to sport a new design since the launch of iPhone 6 in 2015 and many expected it to lead to blockbuster sales, dubbed by Wall Street analysts as "supercycle".

"This was supposed to be the supercycle year and if Apple hasn't been able to drive a substantial unit growth this year, then that makes you little cautious on future iPhone cycles," Atlantic Equities analyst James Cordwell said.

A survey of people planning to buy the iPhone showed the percentage looking to buy the iPhone X has dropped to 37% from 43% in an earlier survey. UBS analysts wrote in a note published yesterday. The iPhone X, which features an edge-to-edge display and facial-recognition technology to unlock the phone, went on sale in November in the US.

Asian supply chain checks recently have been weakening production likely to be about 20 million units, JP Morgan analyst wrote in a note last week. Quite a few of Apple's iPhone parts suppliers are based in Asia. Suppliers of Foxconn, one of Apple's main suppliers and formally known as Hon Hai Precision Industry Co Ltd, fell 0.7% in yesterday's session.

Canaccord Genuity analysts has lowered its second-quarter iPhone shipment estimates to 59.9 million units, citing its own survey.

"Our survey work indicates iPhone X sales were strong during the December quarter but sales appear slower in January, more in line with normal seasonal trends," they wrote in a note.

Shares of US-listed Apple suppliers such as Micron Technology edged lower following the Nikkei report. Reuters and Bloomberg

CSO figures showing retail sales, excluding the motor trade, last month climbed 7.6% from December 2016, marked a continuing "strong performance", said Seamus Coffey, the economist who heads the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council.

The figures showed household equipment and books, newspapers, and stationary posted the largest increases from a year earlier.

Fears over US tax cuts by pharmaceuticals are "real" but may yet "be much less dramatic than companies might expect", according to Jean Deloitte, a partner in the Irish division of PwC's tax and legal services. The firm's Irish division has advised clients on the impact of the new legislation.

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## VMware may seek to buy Dell

Shares in computer services firm VMware — whose main Irish offices are in Cork — plunged yesterday after broadcaster CNBC reported it is considering acquiring Dell Technologies in a reverse merger, bringing Dell back to markets in what could be the industry's biggest deal ever.

VMware, which was absorbed by Dell in its \$67bn (£53.9bn) acquisition of EMC, could now turn around and buy Dell, CNBC reported.

In a reverse merger, VMware would issue shares to Dell's private owners, which could then sell the stock on the public market, giving them a way to profit from having taken Dell private in 2013 and to help pay off some of its \$30bn in debt, CNBC said. Dell, which owns about 8% of VMware, is considering various options, including a public offering, sources told Bloomberg last week.

The company's board is meeting later this month to discuss the options as it seeks ways to boost revenue and raise funds. VMware dropped up to 11% in the US stock market over the two years, after the CNBC report. Dell founder and chief executive Michael Dell took his company private in 2013, when he teamed up with Silver Lake Management on a leveraged buyout.

That freed Dell to cut costs and work to become a bigger supplier of hardware and software for corporate data centres without the quarterly investor scrutiny that comes with being a public company.

Three years later, Dell acquired storage company EMC and its major assets in data-centre software vendor VMware, taking on a massive debt load to seal the deal. VMware's market value of \$55.4bn. At the end of 2016, an estimated 50 Cork-based jobs were cut at the then newly merged company Dell-EMC.

The development was due to the overlap of job functions brought about by Dell's takeover of EMC. Worldwide, the combination was estimated to cost 2,000 to 3,000 jobs. The combined businesses employ 5,300 people here. EMC employs 3,000 people in Owens, Cork, and Dell has around 2,500 people across facilities in Limerick, Cork, and Dublin. EMC has, for some time, been one of the biggest private sector employers in Munster.

Technologies includes cybersecurity firm RSA; consultancy Pivotal; hardware manufacturer Dell; as well as VMware.

Gordon MRM continues to operate the NTMA contract.

Government figures show Gordon MRM received €159,922 in fees, excluding Vat, for its combined work for the NTMA and Nama in 2016. Those fees compare with €177,959 paid in 2015. The firm's clients include the Irish Stock Exchange, Permanent TSB, and the Irish Medical Organisation.

## Time to dream



Model Sarah Tansey encourages the public to play EuroMillions before 7:30pm tonight as the jackpot heads towards €100m. The jackpot has been rolling since January 2. Picture: Madnes

## BMG to supply Gala for first time

Wholesaler BMG which is best known as the supplier to Spar, Eurospar, Londis, and other independent stores in the Republic says it plans to buy rival 4 Aces Wholesale.

The Midlands supplier has contracts with a significant number of small retail outlets, including around 35 of the 220 Gala stores.

The deal will require the approval of the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission. It includes 4 Aces' main 40,000sq ft warehouse in Portlaoise, Co Laois, and wholesale operations in Navan, Co Meath, and Clommel, Co Tipperary.

The sale announcement came on the eve of Greenore's annual shareholders' meeting, being held this morning in Dublin — and a first quarter trading update; expected to show a solid start to its latest financial year, with mid-single digit percentage revenue growth in the UK and continuing momentum in the US.

Analysts expect Greenore to generate operating profits of nearly €170m in the 12 months to the end of September.

In November, the food group reported a 74% drop in annual pre-tax profits to €12.4m, due to restructuring costs and expenses associated with its €700m takeover of US company Peacock Foods.

Operating profit fell by 68% to €42.7m. However, at the time, Greenore boss Patrick Coveney forecast a material improvement in profitability this year.

The Peacock addition is expected to substantially drive Greenore's US revenue growth in the coming years, despite the loss of one of its two Starbucks contracts and concern over the group's ability to maintain others.

The Treasury Building in Dublin where Nama is based. Picture: Billy Higgins

## Serica targets Irish asset partners

British exploration company Serica Energy is actively looking for drilling partners to move forward its Irish assets to the drilling stages.

The London-based company's chief focus is on the North Sea, where it plans two major drilling campaigns this year and completion of three asset acquisitions from BP, which were announced in November.

However, it is also working on developing its non-UK assets, in Ireland and Namibia. Serica has had a presence offshore Ireland since 2006. In 2009 the company made its first drilling for gas — the first oil discovery off the west coast in 30 years.

While the find was initially deemed non-commercial, the company still has hopes for the discovery at the Bandon field in the Slyne Basin.

Last year, Serica was also granted a two-year extension to find a funding partner for an exploration well at its two licences in the Rockall Basin off the north-west coast.

It also won an additional licence in the Government's 2011 Atlantic Margin Licensing round.

"We still like these assets and we do think we have a good exploration portfolio [in Ireland] and we want to take it forward," said chief executive Mitch Flegg.

Mr Flegg, the former chief executive of now defunct Irish firm explorer Circle Oil, said while there are signs of recovery and interest in the Irish offshore, the bulk of Serica's Irish licences are categorised as "deepwater" assets, which is being viewed as a lower interest. However, he said Serica is actively looking for partners and is working on the process in Ireland, though its North Sea expansion is taking centre stage.

## Deal on in major cash booster

Austrian furniture retailer Kika-Leiner has secured enough cash to see it through this year, a positive step in its owner Steinhilber's efforts to overcome financial troubles. Steinhilber, which owns more than 40 retail furniture stores in Ireland, in Bandon and Dublin, Ireland, revealed accounting irregularities last month, sparking an 85% share price drop. The firm's market value of €10bn (€8bn) off its market value. It has since been scrambling to set assets and find financing to support the sale of its business pulling down the sprawling retail empire.

Credit cards fuel UK bank concerns

Britain's banks are looking for ways to reduce credit card losses before materialises, prompting concerns about the accounting practice among regulators. The British Bankers' Association (BBA) has warned that Riskier products such as credit cards have become more popular among banks in recent years. In the first nine months of 2017, cards brought in £1.5bn (£1.7bn) in income for Barclays alone. However, banks account for interest earned on zero percent balance transfers, which is a positive feature with some long initial interest-free periods, is worrying some. Britain's Prudential Regulation Authority warned that if banks are wrong about how customers will behave it could hit their capital.

## Irish gin exports expected to grow

Exports of Irish-made gin are expected to rise significantly this year, according to the Alcohol Beverage Federation of Ireland (ABFI). It also expects Irish whiskey production to be double what it was in 2015 by 2020. This growth will also boost drinks-related tourism to Ireland and result in greater demand for agri inputs. The ABFI has also warned that while there are strong prospects for the Irish drinks industry, the public health and budget bill could hinder growth.

## Medtech firm in appointment coup

Irish medical technology company Neuromed Devices — which specialises in neurostimulation technologies — has appointed Hubert Lim, a world-renowned scientist and thought leader in auditory neuroscience, neuroplasticity and neuromodulation, as chief scientific officer. Dr Lim is a widely published leader in the neural engineering field, and has been at the forefront of the development and translation of brain-machine interfaces from scientific concept into clinical application.

## Greencore shares fall 3.2% despite non-core asset sale

Greencore shares fell by 3.2% despite it completing its exit from the non-core deserts and cakes business and cakes business amid upbeat sentiment surrounding its first trading update of the year, due today.

The Irish convenience food group has sold its remaining deserts and cakes business, based in Hull, to UK-owned ambient cake maker Bright Blue Foods, for a figure believed to be less than €10m (€11m).

Greencore began its retreat from the deserts end of the food line four years ago with the €11m sale of its Ministry of Cakes business in the

## Airline's new boss takes gender-related cut in pay

The new chief executive of EasyJet will take a pay cut to match the salary of his predecessor, Carolyn McCull, said the airline, in a bid to settle against the gender pay gap.

British companies are under heightened scrutiny over their pay structures; the BBC has faced criticism over why it pays some women less than men in equivalent jobs.

New EasyJet chief executive Johan Lundgren will reduce his salary from £740,000 (£842,410) to £700,000 to match the pay of Ms McCull, who became the chief executive of ITV at the start of this year.

The rest of his pay package will also be the same. In his last job at travel group TUI, Mr Lundgren was paid €675,000, according to the firm's annual report, and was likely to be called David than the female.

The aviation industry has a particular issue with gender equality as a vast majority of pilots are men.

EasyJet said that, on average, male employees earned twice as much as women but that was driven by the fact that 94% of its pilots were men.

It said that pay rates are the same for men and women but pilots are paid more than other roles.

EasyJet said it was aiming to recruit more women as pilots, with a target that 20% of new pilots would be female by 2020.

## Allyson Smout

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## Public relations firm retains high profile Nama work

Dublin PR firm Gordon MRM has beaten off competition from two other firms to retain its high profile public relations contract with the Government agency Nama.

The company also holds the PR contract with Nama's parent, the National Treasury Management Agency.

The new contract was awarded this month after a tender for two years, with an option by Nama to extend for a further two years.

The lowest bid for the Nama work was €382,512 for the four years, or €85,628 per annum, while the highest offer was €600,000.

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London (FTSE 100)	Paris (CAC 40)	Frankfurt (Dax)	New York (Dow Jones)	New York (Nasdaq)	Tokyo (Nikkei 225)	Hong Kong (Hang Seng)	Gold	Platinum	Brent Crude
+5.99 7,611.53	-7.56 5,521.59	-15.69 13,324.48	-177.23 26,439.48	-39.27 7,466.51	-2.54 23,629.34	-187.23 32,966.89	-12.70 1,344.50	-5.13 1,006.52	-1.15 69.37

# Conroy getting closer to unearthing Irish gold hoard

Geoff Percival

Conroy Gold and Natural Resources is likely to finally apply next year for planning permission for the establishment of the Republic's first commercial gold mine.

The Dublin-based prospector, which has been eyeing a commercial gold mine in Clontibret, Co Monaghan,

since the 1980s, is to accelerate work at the site following the raising of around €1m (£1.1m) from a share placing on London's AIM market in December in order to fund drilling activity.

"We now have the funds in place to accelerate the work necessary to enable us develop a mine at our Clontibret/Clay Lake (in Monaghan/

Armagh) target," said chief executive Richard Conroy.

The mining firm will now immediately ramp-up work at Clontibret by starting a considerable drilling programme, set to take up much of this year, and to firm up the quantity and quality of the gold at the site.

"That work is likely to cost "several hundred"

thousands of euro.

Based on the work already done, we believe we have the opportunity on our licence area in Ireland to develop a world-class mining project. The focus will be on Clontibret initially as we look to bring in the first gold mine on our property into production at the earliest opportunity," Mr Conroy

said. The company is not actively seeking a development partner for the project but would welcome an approach, Mr Conroy said.

Latest figures indicate the existence of around 517,000 ounces of gold reserves in just 20% of the Clontibret mine on our property into production at the earliest opportunity," Mr Conroy

estimated six million ounces of gold. When Conroy began exploring at Clontibret there was only an estimated 4,500 ounces of gold at site.

When Canadian prospector Dalradian Resources is added to the equation, the estimated amount of recoverable gold in the northern half of Ireland rises to around 10 million ounces.

Dalradian submitted a planning application to build a gold mine at its Curraghin-alt gold deposit in Omagh last month, with a view to a 25-year lifespan. Dalradian has claimed its plan will boost the local economy to the tune of €80m and present one of the largest foreign direct investments to be made in the North.

## In brief

**Dr Pepper in €9bn merger deal**  
US soft drinks maker Dr Pepper Snapple and K-Cup maker Keurig Green Mountain said they will combine to create a firm worth \$11bn (£6.85bn) in annual sales. Dr Pepper Snapple shareholders will be paid a special cash dividend of \$10.75 a share and will retain 13% of the combined company, which will be called Keurig Dr Pepper.

The deal is being driven by Keurig Green Mountain — known in the US for coffee and as the UK owner — a closely held company run by JAB, will own 87% of the new entity.

The deal deals with US competition with the likes of Coca-Cola and PepsiCo, bringing a stable of brands that includes the UK's AsW root beer and Motley's apple juice.

## Lockheed boost on US tax cut

The world's largest arms contractor Lockheed Martin expects profit to surge this year even if sales don't, as the company benefits from US tax cuts and higher deliveries of its F-35 Lightning II fighter jet. Earnings will more than double to up to \$15.50 a share, it said. Lower US federal levies are providing a timely boost to Lockheed as the company encounters waning demand for some of its oldest aircraft and ramps up output of the F-35, its most advanced jet. The weapons maker is also poised to benefit from US aerospace and defence spending next year.

## Google in taxi-app investment

Google has made its first ride-hailing investment in Asia by pumping money into Go-Jek, as the Indonesian start-up and deep-pocketed rival Uber and Grab are backed by Japan's SoftBank Group, while Go-Jek has secured funding from Chinese technology giants Tencent and JD.com.

## Amazon opens 'rainforest' offices

Amazon has opened a rain-forest-like office space in Seattle in the US that it hopes will spark new ideas for employees. While cities across North America are seeking how Seattle-based Amazon's second headquarters, the world's largest online retailer is expanding its HQ. Amazon's office towers and expensive eateries have taken the place of warehouses and parking lots in Seattle's South Lake Union district.

The Spheres complex, officially opened last week, is the pinnacle of a decade of development here. The Spheres' glass and wood interiors house some 40,000 plants of 400 species. Amazon, famous for its demanding work culture, hopes the new office buildings will let employees reflect and have chance encounters, spawning new products or plans.

The fall of Carillion has forced the UK government to guarantee public services ranging from school meals to road works provided by the company.

The investigation will be conducted as quickly and thoroughly as possible, the council said.

It said it would be done in coordination with the Financial Conduct Authority, Insolvency Service and the Pensions Regulator, all of which are investigating the UK's biggest corporate failure in a decade.

A KPMG spokesman said the firm he believed it conducted Carillion's audit appropriately and responsibly, and would cooperate fully with the council's investigation.

"Transparency and accountability are vital to building public trust in audit," the spokesman said.

"We believe it is important that regulators acting in the public interest review the audit work related to high-risk public services such as Carillion," he said. Carillion's collapse followed three profit warnings in 2017.

Meanwhile, John Laing Infrastructure Fund one of Europe's largest listed investors in public infrastructure projects, said it was looking to replace Carillion as facilities management provider of the Orkney Islands.

There would be minimal service disruption, with advisory and transaction costs related to the appointment of replacement facilities managers to cost about £3m, the fund said.

## GKN in pension salvo against bid

GKN has issued a salvo against Melrose's hostile bid by warning that raising the company's debt ratio could reduce the strength of its covenants and therefore increase the cash needed to fund its pension. The British engineering group, traces its roots back to the 18th century, has been trying to fend off a £7.49bn (£6.55bn) hostile bid from Melrose. GKN said the strength of its covenant was critical to its investment strategy and the amount it paid into its schemes, and it said it was assessed at the "high end of good" following its latest financial valuation.

It said Melrose had stated it would use £1.5bn of leverage to 2.5 times core earnings, materially higher than the leverage level of 0.6 in terms of good debt.

"This may have implications for the covenant strength of the company, the level of the technical provisions and therefore the level of immediate and/or long-term cash funding requirements," GKN said.

## Euro's rise hits inflation target

Analysis

Oliver Mangan

Currency moves are a fresh headache for the ECB in its attempts to meet its 2% inflation target.

The euro's sharp appreciation against the dollar, over the past year, makes it more difficult to get inflation in the eurozone back up to 2%, as it is putting downward pressure on import prices.

Underlying inflation in the eurozone is 1%. The ECB believes that this means there is a need for a continuing accommodative monetary policy, despite the marked pick-up in economic activity in the eurozone.

At last week's meeting of the ECB Governing Council, no changes were made to monetary policy. The key deposit rate was left at -0.4%, with the refi rate kept at 0%. Asset purchases under the ECB's quantitative easing programme were cut from €60bn to €30bn per month at the start of the year. The programme is to run until at least September.

The ECB, once again, reaffirmed its commitment that, if necessary, the quantitative-easing programme could be extended beyond 2018, and/or increased in size. Thus, the ECB intends to take a very cautious approach to withdrawing its massive stimulus.

ECB president, Mario Draghi, said currency strength could cause the ECB to think about its monetary strategy. He emphasised the ECB expects to keep interest rates at their current, low levels well past the end of the net-asset purchases. He said this was of fundamental importance.

Indeed, Mr Draghi said that he sees "very few chances, at all", that interest rates will be raised this year.

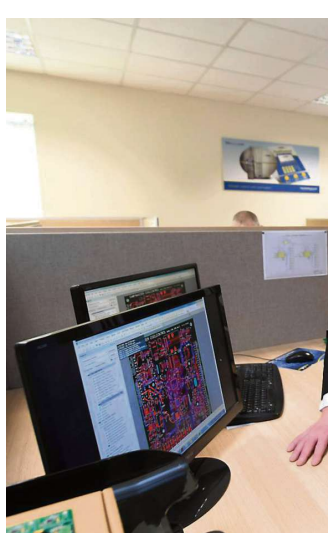
Markets, though, are getting nervous and pushing eurozone bond yields upwards. Last week, the benchmark, 10-year German bond yield hit its highest level since 2013. The markets are looking at the very strong economic data coming out of the eurozone. They believe that the ECB will cut net asset purchases later this year and begin raising interest rates early next year.

Markets expect that the ECB will have moved fully away from negative interest rates by the summer of 2018.

The ECB is in a difficult position, with eurozone economic growth picking up for the first year. It has to sit too well with the ECB's negative interest rates and QE policies. Eurozone growth into the performance of the economy, at the start of 2018, suggest a further pick-up in activity. The ECB will be slow to act, though, with inflation well below target.

Oliver Mangan is chief economist with AIB

## Research farmed out



John Daly, Edmond Hartly, and Deirdre Brosnan, Dairymaster, and Joseph Walsh, Lero researcher and head of the School of Stem at IT Tralee, as the three groups implement a CDM research and development program to develop intelligent autonomous systems and Internet of Things technology on the farm. See report below. Picture: Donnisk Walsh

# Google under pressure to avoid further EU fines

Aoife White

Google faced a deadline yesterday to defend changes to its shopping service that left old foes clamouring for a new wave of EU anti-competitive fines.

Still smarting from last year's record €2.4bn penalty, Google must submit the first report to the EU on how it has met a strict demand from regulators to give smaller competitors a fairer deal.

Rivals say the search company's offer to auction advertising space doesn't work because Google wins most of the spots.

The US company has so far said it is giving competitors the same opportunity to show shopping ads from retailers that its own Google Shopping service gets.

Failing to comply with an EU competition order can cost up to 5% of global daily revenue.

Long-time opponent Foundem reckons Google is "actively inviting" fines of about €9m a day.

In a similar fight more than a decade ago, Microsoft was fined €280.5m for disobeying EU demands.

"It risks being a second Microsoft," said Ioannis Kokkoris, a law and economics professor at Queen Mary University in London.

It's looking like a case "of that scale with remedies and a decision of non-compliance and a fine for that non-compliance," he said.

Kelkoo Group, one of the companies buying ad slots, and Foundem, which filed the first complaint about Google's shopping business, have both called for fines. Penalties aren't automatic.

The EU could negotiate changes with Alphabet's Google or require it to do more.

It would need to open a new investigation and set formal objections before it could decide on further punishment.

"I think the commissioner will decide after seeing all the evidence" on how the shopping ad offer rarely shows rival results "that they need to fix the Google again," said Richard Stables, chief executive of Kelkoo, referring to Margrethe Vestager, the EU's competition chief.

"You need to put a remedy in that effectively fixes the abuse and they have not done that," Mr Stables said.

Google, which is appealing last year's fines, declined to comment.

It said in September that it is running the Google Shopping unit as a separate business so it must compete on equal terms when it bids for shopping ads it sells to retailers to show their products.

What precisely Google has to do is not clear.

The commission says Google has to give equal treatment to rival comparison shopping services and its own service, "not more, not less".

How that happens is "up to Google to achieve and implement".

The EU will have to examine why Google's shopping ads aren't showing more than a handful of rival ads.

When users search for a product, picture ads pop up above or beside search results with links to retailers.

The vast majority of these are labelled 'By Google' showing that Google is being paid by retailers for the ads.

It is unclear why rivals aren't providing the same ads in the auction system that Google set up to ally EU concerns.

"That is in my view the million dollar question, whether competitors have a fair chance to be there," said Mr Kokkoris.

"We need to see whether the outcome we are seeing is because competitors are not winning or not bidding at all or whether there is something else happening to prevent their ads coming up," he said.

In the meantime, regulators have already started their work checking up on Google.

The company had to submit its first report by a deadline which passed yesterday, the EU said, and is required to keep handing in such filings every four months for five years.

Officials get expert advice to assess Google's actions.

KPMG provides economics and accounting help and Mavens helps the EU on search engine optimisation and marketing.

"We have already requested information on the operation of Google's measures from Google and other market participants," the EU's press office said.

"Of course, as part of our monitoring we also listen to what those most directly affected by the practices in question have to say."

Commissioner Vestager and her team are meeting with a variety of stakeholders and take their views seriously," the press office said.

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## Farming world

### IFA: 'Crunch time' for Mercosur trade talks

Crunch time has arrived in the EU-Mercosur trade negotiations, says IFA president Joe Healy.

He said that EU Trade Commissioner Cecilia Malmström has already conceded too much in giving away an extra 70,000t of beef market access.

"Now the Brazilians want more," he said, calling for a "stronger negotiating position" for the EU.

Mr Healy was speaking from Brussels, where the EU-Mercosur negotiations resumed yesterday at ministerial level. He said with the Brazilian election campaign

### Research into boosting of farm standards starts

Developing autonomous systems to ease the workload on dairy farms is one of the aims of a newly-announced €2m R&D project.

Behind it are dairy equipment manufacturer DairyMaster, IT Tralee, and Lero, the Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre. The project aims to boost farm productivity, milk quality and animal health with the latest technology. Researchers including PhD students and post-doctoral scientists and engineers will be involved.

DairyMaster, based in Causeway, Co Kerry, employs 350 people, has operations in the UK and the US and exports to 40 countries in five continents. Its chief executive Edmond Hartly said the company is committed to providing the best possible technologies to customers.

Joseph Walsh, head of the School of Science, Technology, Engineering and

### MacSweeney named Bord Bia chairman

The new chairman of Bord Bia is Dan MacSweeney, who recently retired as chief executive of the Carbery Group, based at Ballyneen in West Cork.

A UCC food science graduate, he played a key role in transforming Carbery from a dairy business into an international cheese, nutrition and food ingredients group with substantial investments in flavours and natural extracts.

His appointment as Bord Bia chairman, for a period of three years, was made following a competitive process managed by the Public Appointments Service. Agriculture Minister

## Ray Ryan

### MacSweeney named Bord Bia chairman

Michael Creed, who announced the appointment, said Mr MacSweeney has a wealth of knowledge and experience of the Irish agri-food sector.

"Dan's reputation for developing a successful international agri-food business, while acting as primary producer at the heart of the business model is widely recognised," he said.

Mr Creed also paid tribute to outgoing Bord Bia chairman Michael Carey, noting his effective chairing and, particularly in relation to the sustainability agenda, the Origin Green programme, which "has delivered tangible results".

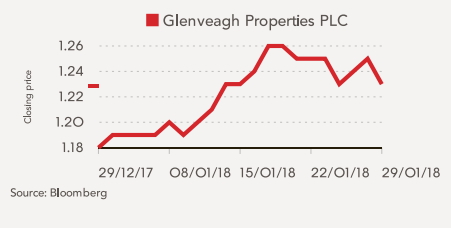
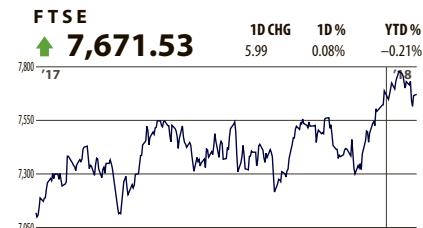
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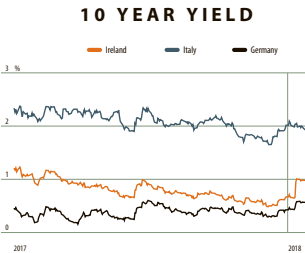
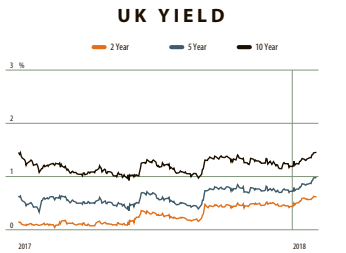
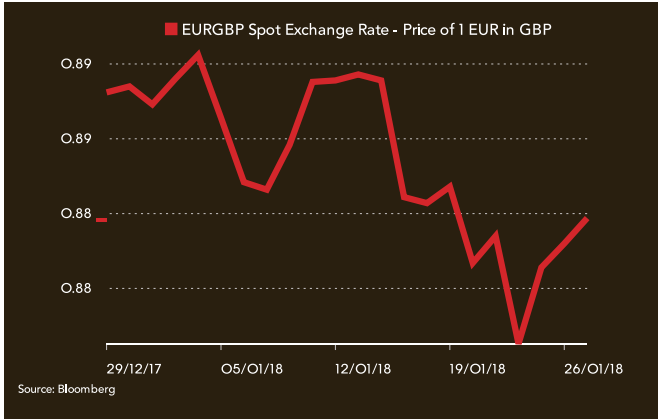
# Over 100 years of Irish rugby

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### FTSE 100

COMPANY	CLOSE	CHANGE
3i Group PLC	960.20	11.00
Admiral Group	1884.00	-4.50
Anglo American	1756.00	21.40
Antofagasta PLC	952.20	11.20
Ashhead Group	2135.00	11.00
Ashted PLC	2829.00	-26.00
AstraZeneca PLC	5086.00	-9.00
Aviva PLC	523.80	2.20
BAE Systems PLC	588.40	9.00
Barclays PLC	207.65	-2.35
Barracloughs PLC	616.40	-1.80
BAT	4875.00	-64.00
Berkeley Group	4103.00	-11.00
BHP Billiton	1600.00	17.60
BP PLC	515.60	-6.70
British Land Co	679.40	-7.00
BT Group PLC	260.25	-2.65
Bunzl PLC	2062.00	3.00
Burberry Group	1614.00	2.50
Carroll PLC	5020.00	80.00
Centrica PLC	133.30	-1.35
Coca-Cola HBC	2401.00	-17.00
Compass Group	1493.50	-12.00
CRH PLC	2714.00	-11.00
Croda Intl	4513.00	0.00
DCC PLC	751.00	-65.00
Diageo PLC	2529.50	-4.50
Direct Line Ins	375.80	0.80
DS Smith PLC	512.00	2.80
easyjet PLC	1678.00	-11.00
Evraz PLC	385.00	1.30
Experian PLC	1628.50	-4.50
Ferguson PLC	5558.00	-34.00
Ferrovial PLC	1362.00	-1.50
GE PLC	280.10	3.20
GNP PLC	431.90	-4.10
GlassSmithline	1349.00	-6.00
Glenore PLC	415.00	13.10
Halma PLC	1267.00	2.00
Hammerston PLC	494.60	-1.60
HargreavesLondr	1906.00	6.00
HSBC	770.50	-0.10
Imperial Brands	2915.00	0.00
Infoma PLC	687.40	3.20
InterContinental	4762.00	-76.00
Intersec Group	5050.00	-10.00
Coas Airlines	649.60	-0.40
ITV PLC	170.95	-0.75
J Sainsbury PLC	260.10	-1.00
Johnson Matthey	3310.00	40.00
Just Eat PLC	815.00	-4.40
Kingsfisher PLC	235.10	1.00
Land Securities	1001.00	-9.40
Legal & General	276.30	1.10
Lloyds Banking	71.55	0.29
Londr&Schroder	4025.00	1.00
Markit & Spencer	310.20	-2.30
Medicines Intl	610.00	-1.00
Micro Focus Intl	2196.00	2.00
Moncl PLC	1914.00	19.00
National Grid	804.50	-2.50
Nest PLC	512.00	-66.00
NHC Health PLC	3350.00	-10.00
Old Mutual PLC	236.40	-3.90
Paddy Power Betfair	8115.00	35.00
Pearson PLC	690.40	-3.60
Perstorp PLC	2619.00	-12.00
Prudential PLC	1927.20	12.50
Randgold Res	7168.00	38.00
Rackham PLC	6787.00	60.00
RELX PLC	1564.50	-1.00
RentokIntlental	296.40	-0.60
Rio Tinto PLC	4024.50	82.00
Rolls-Royce	862.00	6.20
RoyalBankScotnd	300.20	-1.40
RoyalDutchSHELL	2522.00	12.00
RoyalDutchSHELL	2573.50	19.50
RSA Insurance	622.00	-0.40
Sage Group PLC	750.00	-3.60
Schroders PLC	3773.00	54.00
ScottishMint	477.00	6.00
Segro PLC	576.60	-1.60
Sevens Trent	1970.50	-3.00
Shire PLC	1640.00	36.50
Sky PLC	1950.00	2.00
Smith & Nephew	1298.50	-1.00
Smiths Group	1497.50	-2.00
Smartfit Kappa	2586.00	34.00
SSE PLC	1300.00	-8.50
St James's Place	1213.50	-10.50
Skel Chartered	638.80	-10.50
Skel Chartered	632.40	-0.70
Taylor Wimpey	1968.50	-0.75
Tesco PLC	210.80	-0.70
THE AG	1618.50	-11.00
Unilever PLC	3600.00	-29.00
United Utilities	736.20	-11.80
Vodafone Group	278.95	0.75
Vodafone Group	375.00	6.00
Wm Morrison Super	225.00	-1.50
WPP PLC	1290.50	-2.00



### FTSE EURO

COMPANY	CURRENCY	CLOSE	CHANGE	COMPANY	CURRENCY	CLOSE	CHANGE	COMPANY	CURRENCY	CLOSE	CHANGE
ABB Ltd	CHF	26.33	-0.23	Eni Tntecom	EUR	14.46	-0.16	Prudential PLC	GBP	1927.00	12.50
Adidas	EUR	184.15	-0.20	Envi SpA	EUR	5.12	-0.06	Rackham PLC	GBP	6787.00	60.00
Air Liquide SA	EUR	109.10	0.65	Engie SA	EUR	14.03	0.04	Renault SA	EUR	89.78	0.14
Alstom SE	EUR	90.42	0.86	Eni SpA	EUR	14.79	-0.16	Richemont	CHF	88.58	-0.22
Allianz	EUR	204.25	-0.10	Ferrosuiss	EUR	69.88	0.18	Rio Tinto PLC	GBP	4024.50	82.00
Anheuser-BuschInb	EUR	91.40	-1.15	Glenore PLC	GBP	1349.00	-6.00	Roche Gs	CHF	230.50	-0.95
AP Moeller A	DKK	10730.00	-110.00	Glenore PLC	GBP	415.00	13.10	Roche Holding	CHF	234.20	-0.80
AP Moeller B	DKK	11230.00	-115.00	Heineken NV	EUR	89.94	-0.44	RoyalDutchSHELL	GBP	300.20	-1.40
ASML Holding NV	EUR	164.20	-0.75	Henkel V	EUR	111.10	-0.75	RoyalDutchSHELL	GBP	2522.00	12.00
AstraZeneca PLC	GBP	2829.00	-26.00	Henkel Gs KSA	EUR	100.60	-5.10	Santitas SA	GBP	2573.50	19.50
AstraZeneca PLC	GBP	5086.00	-9.00	Hennessy Moutzet	SEK	157.54	1.04	Santitas SA	EUR	90.24	0.20
Atlas Copco A	SEK	366.80	-0.30	Hermes Intl	EUR	440.00	-5.10	Santitas SA	EUR	72.90	-0.58
Atlas Copco B	SEK	324.20	-0.50	HSBC	GBP	770.50	-0.10	SAP	EUR	92.04	-0.04
AXA SA	EUR	27.18	0.25	Iberdrola	EUR	6.62	-0.07	Schneider EI SE	EUR	75.74	0.34
Banco Bilbao	EUR	7.64	0.01	Imperial Brands	GBP	2915.00	0.00	Shire PLC	GBP	3474.50	35.50
Banco Santander	EUR	6.05	-0.01	Inditex	EUR	29.18	0.17	Siemens	EUR	121.54	0.06
Barclays PLC	GBP	207.65	-2.35	ING Group	EUR	16.31	0.08	SocieteGenerale	EUR	47.20	0.50
BASeF	EUR	95.06	-0.50	Intesa Sanpaolo	EUR	3.19	0.03	Stanol	NOK	183.50	-1.80
BAT	GBP	4875.00	-64.00	Intesa Sanpaolo	EUR	2.89	0.03	Sid Chartered	GBP	838.70	-10.50
Bayer	EUR	106.40	1.00	Intesa Sanpaolo	EUR	3.19	0.03	Swiss Hands A	SEK	115.75	0.05
BBIP Billiton	GBP	1600.00	17.60	KBC Group NV	EUR	77.42	-3.40	Swiss Hands B	SEK	117.00	-0.20
BMW	EUR	59.49	-0.68	Kering	EUR	405.00	-0.70	Swiss Re AG	CHF	93.54	0.00
BMW Pref	EUR	79.15	-0.60	LafargeHolcim	CHF	59.04	0.10	Telefonica	EUR	8.48	-0.02
BNP Paribas SA	EUR	68.35	0.47	Linde AG	EUR	201.60	1.20	TOTAL SA	EUR	47.30	-0.22
BP PLC	GBP	515.60	-6.70	Lloyds Banking	GBP	71.55	0.29	UBS Group AG	CHF	19.21	-0.15
BT Group PLC	GBP	260.25	-2.65	L'Oréal	EUR	182.40	0.20	Unicredit SpA	EUR	17.87	-0.08
Compass Group	GBP	1493.50	-12.00	LMVH	EUR	252.00	0.70	Unilever NV	EUR	46.05	-0.10
Continental	EUR	245.30	-1.30	Mancheur Ruck	EUR	191.30	-0.20	Unilever PLC	GBP	3965.00	-29.00
Credit Agricole	EUR	15.41	-0.01	National Grid	GBP	804.50	-2.50	Vinci SA	EUR	87.56	-0.32
Credit Suisse	CHF	18.41	-0.20	Nestle	CHF	80.34	-0.66	Vodafone Group	GBP	226.35	0.75
CRH PLC	GBP	2714.00	-11.00	Nokia OYJ	EUR	4.00	0.12	Volkswagen AG	EUR	183.20	-0.10
Daimler	EUR	74.79	-0.18	Nordea Bank AB	SEK	97.62	-0.24	Volvo AB	SEK	161.05	-1.55
Danone SA	EUR	69.16	-0.70	Norovis AG	CHF	86.92	-0.82	VW VZ	EUR	181.98	-0.32
Deutsche Bank A	EUR	245.20	2.40	Novo Nordisk A	DKK	345.55	-0.05	WPP PLC	GBP	1290.50	-2.00
Deutsche Bank B	EUR	15.45	-0.24	Orange SA	EUR	14.70	-0.14	Zurich Ins	CHF	313.80	-1.50
Deutsche Post	EUR	38.81	-0.22	Perini Ricard	EUR	128.10	-2.00				
Diageo PLC	GBP	2529.50	-4.50	Philips NV	EUR	33.90	0.27				

### CURRENCIES

UNIT	EUR	USD	AUD	NZD	CAD	HKD	PLN	CHF	CNY	JPY	SEK	NOK	INR	CZK	
Brazil Real	0.8796	1.1368	0.8095	0.6551	0.5916	0.6568	0.1036	0.2412	0.0603	0.1225	0.0074	0.1044	0.0127	0.0395	
Euro	1.0000	1.0712	0.7583	0.6205	0.5771	0.6111	0.2123	0.1124	0.0065	0.0900	0.0022	0.0112	0.0347		
GBP	0.7556	1.0000	0.7089	0.5808	0.5308	0.5810	0.1279	0.2980	0.1664	0.1578	0.0091	0.1264	0.1294	0.0157	0.0487
Hong Kong Dollar	0.5227	0.7260	0.5218	0.4281	0.4934	0.5196	0.1811	0.3684	0.1982	0.1948	0.0113	0.1563	0.1600	0.0194	0.0683
Indian Rupee	1.6092	1.1218	1.3084	1.0091	0.7863	0.8096	1.0119	2.2575	0.4551	0.2740	0.0215	0.1736	0.3771	0.0115	0.0667
Japanese Yen	152.45	1.3311	1.2421	0.9883	0.9018	0.9178	0.3678	1.3161	0.9484	0.0113	0.1560	0.1597	0.0194	0.0681	
Korean Won	1123.75	10.0796	8.2785	6.1340	5.7127	6.1344	2.3301	8.3067	1.2311	0.0116	0.0883	0.0117	0.1310	0.0310	
New Zealand Dollar	0.7044	1.1413	0.7112	0.5848	0.5398	0.5896	0.1279	0.2980	0.1664	0.1578	0.0091	0.1264	0.1294	0.0157	0.0487
Polish Zloty	0.4033	0.5227	0.3811	0.3121	0.2811	0.2911	0.1279	0.2980	0.1664	0.1578	0.0091	0.1264	0.1294	0.0157	0.0487
Singapore Dollar	1.3400	1.1368	0.8095	0.6551	0.5916	0.6568	0.1036	0.2412	0.0603	0.1225	0.0074	0.1044	0.0127	0.0395	
Swiss Franc	0.7556	1.0000	0.7089	0.5808	0.5308	0.5810	0.1279	0.2980	0.1664	0.1578	0.0091	0.1264	0.1294	0.0157	0.0487
Thai Baht	35.4803	30.9377	37.5886	28.6853	27.7190	27.7190	1.2000	0.2795	0.1480	0.0086	0.1185	0.1242	0.0147	0.0457	
Chinese Renminbi	7.0831	8.2726	6.3405	5.1299	4.8405	5.1439	0.8316	1.8887	0.4758	0.0582	0.0010	0.0201	0.0907	0.3088	
Japanese Yen	118.2400	103.2650	109.5500	83.2900	79.9200	84.4400	13.8817	32.5375	116.4000	112.7900	14.7400	1.2160	1.2160	5.2000	
United States Dollar	0.7711	1.1106	0.7898	0.6391	0.5763	0.6096	1.0119	2.2575	0.4551	0.2740	0.0215	0.1736	0.3771	0.0115	0.0667
South African Rand	15.4500	10.8513	7.2266	6.2509	5.6467	6.2613	0.9884	2.3029	0.8240	0.1295	0.0708	0.0968	0.0237	0.1313	0.3366
Indian Rupee	78.8420	89.4700	63.5800	46.5078	51.5285	51.5285	18.9764	67.0191	102.0200	0.5880	0.0380	0.2209	0.0000	0.0000	
Norwegian Krone	8.4500	8.4500	8.4500	8.4500	8.4500	8.4500	8.4500	8.4500	8.4500	8.4500	8.4500	8.4500	8.4500	8.4500	
Czech Koruna	25.3400	28.8105	20.5150	16.5962	14.9929	16.6244	2.6246	6.1153	21.8794	3.2377	0.1880	2.9336	2.6553	0.3222	3.1836

### ISEQ

COMPANY	CLOSE	CHANGE	12 MONTH HIGH	12 MONTH LOW	P/E RATIO	DIVIDEND YIELD	MARKET CAP (M)	VOLUME (000)
1st Derivatives	45.10	0.00	49.90	26.40	119.55	0.53	1155.85	158
Abbey PLC	14.90	0.00	15.00	13.60	5.98	1.15	119.45	218
AIB Group PLC	5.80	0.03	5.90	4.62	13.95	1.60		



# Quinns seek restoration of €9,500 monthly expenses

**Aodhán Ó Faoláin**  
Lawyers for Seán Quinn Jr and his wife, Kathleen Woods, have claimed before the High Court that they are no longer in receipt of living expenses of approximately €9,500 per month.

The couple were among members of the Quinns family who, in 2012, were allowed living expenses by the Commercial Court after having their accounts frozen below €50m each.

In a sworn statement, Mr Quinn Jr said the payments were stopped as part of "a litigation strategy against us", and that the receivers have been working against them in tandem with the bank and not for the purpose they were appointed for. The claims are denied.

The living expenses were approved by the High Court following an application that arose in proceedings by Irish Banking Resolution Corporation, formerly Anglo Irish Bank, aimed at protecting up to €500m assets in the Quinn residential property group (IPG).

IBRC claims the Quinns misappropriated assets from the IPG as part of a scheme to frustrate the bank's efforts to recover loans of up to €2.8bn against them and they were prepared to dispose of those assets. The claims are denied.

As part of its action, the bank secured account freezing orders against various members of the Quinn family and orders appointing receivers over their assets in Ireland and worldwide, apart from family homes and certain jointly held accounts.

Mr Quinn did not get any expenses in December while neither he nor Ms Woods got any expenses in January, Mr Justice Brian McGovern heard yesterday.

## Teen caught around the neck

**Liam Heylin**  
A teenager was slapped, caught around the neck, and thrown into the air and the blown in his face by his mother's boyfriend after they returned from the pub. That was the scenario described by Inspector Ronan Kennelly at Cork District Court yesterday.

Tyrone man Kevin John Devine, aged 39, who previously living at Eagle View, Waterford Rd, returned to Cork yesterday from Tyrone to plead guilty to the charge of assaulting the teenager.

Devine's solicitor, Donal Daly, said: "This has weighed heavily on his mind since it happened in April last year."

Insp Kennelly said the couple and the man called to Toghger Garda Station saying he was assaulted by his mother's partner.

He alleged that Devine came home drunk with his mother on the night in question and that Devine blew smoke into the boy's face and slapped him in the face.

## Life in jail for publisher's manager's murder

Victim was shot seven times in 'deliberate', 'planned' execution

**Daniel Hickey**  
A man has been jailed for life by the non-jury Special Criminal Court after being found guilty of the murder of the manager of the Sunset House pub in Dublin.

Enamonn Cumberton, aged 30, of Mountjoy St, Dublin 7, had denied the murder of Michael Barr, aged 35, in the Sunset House pub in Dublin's north inner city on April 25, 2016.

## Yates and wife claim sale of lands to AIB by bankruptcy trustees is void

**Aodhán Ó Faoláin**  
A claim by former minister Ivan Yates and his wife over the sale of lands in Co Wexford to AIB by his bankrupt trustees to obtain permission from the Irish courts before disposing of the property.

The couple claim the sale to the bank of certain lands at Blackstoops, Enniscoorthy, Co Wexford to AIB is void because the trustees are not the beneficial owners of the lands.

In their action against the trustees and AIB, the couple seek various declarations and orders including that the sale of the lands is void due to the failure to comply with EU insolvency regulations.

At the High Court on Monday Mr Justice Brian McGovern admitted the case to the fast track commercial court list.

## Dublin Bus wins retirement appeal

Dublin Bus has won a High Court appeal over its involuntary retirement of a driver because it was alleged she could no longer pass out at the wheel. Claire McKevitt, 38, had been found to be unfit to drive by an Employment Appeals Tribunal and on appeal, by the Circuit Court.

## Driver told garda she'd be sorry

**Liam Heylin**  
A motorist told a garda she would be sorry for stopping him and when she asked if this was a threat the driver replied: "It is a promise."

## 'Serial killer' will walk free as part of supergrass deal

**Michael McHugh**  
A murderous loyalist paramilitary chief turned state informer will walk free as part of a deal to turn state's evidence. The son of one of his victims said.

## Teacher jailed for false claims

**Aaron McGone**  
A French music teacher who had dual identities so he could work and claim social welfare has been jailed for three and a half years.

## FF councillor has driving ban lifted after appeal

**Gordon Deegan**  
A Fianna Fáil councillor who falsely nominated himself as a member of the party has had his one-year driving ban lifted on appeal.

## Driver told garda she'd be sorry

**Liam Heylin**  
A motorist told a garda she would be sorry for stopping him and when she asked if this was a threat the driver replied: "It is a promise."

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20 TV & Radio

RTE One

6.00 EURONEWS 6.25 Teleshopping 7.55 Today with Maura and Dairín (S) 9.55 The Doctors Weather. 10.50 Dr Phil (S) Weather. 11.45 Scotland Street (S) 12.15 The Shelbourne (S) Weather. 12.45 Telly Bingo 1.00 RTE News: One O'Clock and Weather (S) 1.30 Home and Away (S) 2.00 Neighbours (S) 2.25 EastEnders (S) 3.00 Grandpa's Boy (S) 3.30 Today with Maura and Dairín (S) 5.40 Nuacht (S) RTE News with Signing and European Weather.



What in the World? RTE One, 11.10pm

6.00 THE ANGELUS 6.01 RTE NEWS: SIX ONE AND WEATHER (S) 7.00 ECO EVE Dr Lara Dungan investigates the main sources of air pollution in Ireland (S). 7.30 EASTENDERS Vincent is unnerved by a break-in at the Albert. (S) 8.00 FAIR CITY Nora pushes Robbie to take the truth about his past. (S) 8.30 OPERATIONAL TRANSFORMATION People are monitored as they try to get fit. (S)

RTE Two

6.00 EURONEWS 7.00 TRITE 8.30 The 100 (S) 9.00 NEIGHBOURS Aaron is shaken by Rory's kiss, but lets his stay after Mick, an obsessed fan from Aaron's stripping days, returns. Sheila regains missing an opportunity for romance with Clive. 6.30 HOME AND AWAY Robbo is pulled over for speeding while in pursuit of Novak, while Hunter intends to propose to Olivia, but things fall to go to plan. Diana announces she is moving to Summer Bay (S). 7.00 LIVING THE WILDLIFE Cameron and Colga Stafford-Johnson meets owl expert John Luddy to assess the current barn owl population in Ireland and sees a family of owls with two young chicks in the garden. North Cork resident Barbara Lucy (S). 7.30 DANCING WITH THE STARS Nicky Byrne and Amanda Byram host an Irish version of the US celeb dance contest. (S). 9.30 FIRST DATES IRELAND More singletons, including confident Fuchsia and catering entrepreneur Rebecca, look for love over dinner, while Maitre d' Mateo Sains helps cupid, with help from Pete Ungless, Alice Marr and Ethan Miles. Will farmer Dermot charm nurse Deirdre? And will there be a meeting of the minds for fellow Corkonians psychiatric nurse Darragh and hairdresser Naomi? (S) 10.30 GREY'S ANATOMY Meredith deals with fallout from the conversation with Nathan, Amelia confronts a difficult diagnosis and Maggie finds herself at an awkward family dinner. (S) 11.25 HOW TO GET AWAY WITH MURDER The mystery of the flyers takes a surprising turn as a troubled past comes to light and a shocking new discovery changes everything about the night of the fire. (S) World Forecast 12.10 THE WALKING DEAD Rick and fellow survivors are taken hostage by vicious new rivals. (S) 1.10 THE ISLAND WITH BEAR GRYLLE The group calls an election for a leader. (S) 2.10 CHAS AND MACE 2.55 BROOKLYN NINE-NINE (S) World Forecast 3.15 EURONEWS

TV3

6.30 XPOSE 7.00 Ireland AM (S) 10.30 This Morning (S) 12.30 The 100 (S) 1.00 The Chase (S) 2.00 Tipping Point (S) 3.00 Elaine 4.00 Fear in a Bed 4.30 Judge Judy 5.30 Judge Judy at 5.30 (S) 6.00 SIX O'CLOCK SHOW Chat show featuring celebrity interviews, sampling and food leading chefs and guidance on a wide range of topics. (S) 7.00 EMERALDA Moira struggles to move on. (S) 7.30 RARE BREED - A FARMING YEAR Four farmers keep the family business going while their ill dad recovers. (S) 8.00 DIV SOS: THE MILLION POUND CHILD FOR CHILDREN IN NEED The team descends on the Swans to tackle one of their biggest challenges to date, as they build a centre and supported housing for young people in care and leaving care. (S) 9.00 LONG LOFT FAMILY A former British soldier years to find the father he has never met, while a woman hopes to trace the youngest birth mother from the programme as never encountered. (S) 10.00 TRANSFORMATION STREET A patent tries to explain her transition to her small son. Last in the series. (S) 11.00 THE TONIGHT SHOW Yates gets their take on the day's stories. (S) 12.00 TRUE LIVES (S) 1.10 10 KIDS AND COUNTING 2.00 Close 5.20 THE SIX O'CLOCK SHOW (S)

SKY ATLANTIC

6.00 RICHARD E GRANT'S HOTEL SECRETS (S) 7.00 Fish Town (S) 8.00 The Guest Wing (S) 9.00 The West Wing (S) 10.00 The West Wing (S) 11.00 The West Wing (S) 12.00 HOUSE (S) 1.00 WITHOUT A TRACE (S) 2.00 BLUE BLOODS (S) 3.00 THE WEST WING (S) 4.00 THE WEST WING (S) 5.00 HOUSE (S) 6.00 HOT A girl with cancer exhibits bizarre symptoms. (S) 7.00 CSI: CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION A casino worker is murdered. (S) 8.00 BLUE BLOODS Pilot episode of the police drama, starring Tom Selleck and Donnie Wahlberg. (S) 9.00 THE NEWSPIRMAN: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF BEN BRADLEE A profile of the former executive editor of the Washington Post, who helped bring down Richard Nixon. His papers are being electrifyingly Watergate revelations. (S) 10.45 NIXON BY NIXON: IN HIS OWN WORDS Documentary exploring the character of the father, starting Tom, making use of declassified audiotapes recorded in the White House during Nixon's administration. (S) 12.15 DEXTER 2.35 BANSHEE (S) 3.35 GIRLS (S) 4.10 THE WEST WING (S) 5.05 THE WEST WING (S) Sky One 6.00 The Day After Tomorrow (S) 7.00 Monkey Life (S) 8.00 Meerkat Manor (S) 9.00 Meerkat Manor (S) 10.00 Starline (S) 11.00 MacGyver (S) 12.00 The 100 (S) 1.00 The 100 (S) 2.00 Hawaii Five-O (S) 3.00 NCIS: Los Angeles (S) 4.00 The Mentalist (S) 5.00 Futurama (S) 6.00 Futurama (S) 7.00 The Simpsons (S) 8.00 Premier League's Greatest Goals (S) 9.00 The Bachelor (S) 10.00 The Bachelor (S) 11.00 The Bachelor (S) 12.00 The Bachelor (S) 1.00 The Bachelor (S) 2.00 The Bachelor (S) 3.00 The Bachelor (S) 4.00 The Bachelor (S) 5.00 The Bachelor (S) 6.00 The Bachelor (S) 7.00 The Bachelor (S) 8.00 The Bachelor (S) 9.00 The Bachelor (S) 10.00 The Bachelor (S) 11.00 The Bachelor (S) 12.00 The Bachelor (S) 1.00 The Bachelor (S) 2.00 The Bachelor (S) 3.00 The Bachelor (S) 4.00 The Bachelor (S) 5.00 The Bachelor (S) 6.00 The Bachelor (S) 7.00 The Bachelor (S) 8.00 The Bachelor (S) 9.00 The Bachelor 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Human Resources Manager,  
Employee Relations  
Closing Date: Friday, 16th February 2018  
Hours of work: 9.30am - 5.00pm  
€66,238.50 p.a. - €82,976.56 pro rata p.a.  
Human Resources Operations Manager  
Closing Date: Friday, 16th February 2018  
Hours of work: 9.30am - 5.00pm  
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Senior Technical Officer, School of Psychology  
Closing Date: Thursday 15th February 2018. Hours of work: 9.30am - 5.00pm p.a. to €58,551 pro rata p.a.  
College of Business, Public Policy and Law Senior Lecturer in Business (Part-Time 0.6), Shannon College of Hotel Management  
Closing Date: Thursday 8th March 2018. Lecturer Below the Bar (Fixed Term), Hotel Operations, Facility Management and Hotel Law, Shannon College of Hotel Management  
Closing Date: Thursday 22nd February 2018. The hours of work are those prescribed under the Public Service Agreement in respect of Academic Staff. Salary: Senior Lecturer: €66,035 to €91,242 pro rata p.a. Lecturer Below the Bar: €37,230 to €57,782 pro rata p.a.  
Human Resources Office  
Director of Human Resources  
Closing Date: Wednesday, 14th February 2018  
Hours of work: 9.30am - 5.00pm  
€129,501 pro rata p.a.  
Human Resources Manager,  
Employee Relations  
Closing Date: Friday, 16th February 2018  
Hours of work: 9.30am - 5.00pm  
€66,238.50 p.a. - €82,976.56 pro rata p.a.  
Human Resources Operations Manager  
Closing Date: Friday, 16th February 2018  
Hours of work: 9.30am - 5.00pm  
€66,239 pro rata p.a.  
Application details/procedure:  
For further information and to make an online application for the above posts please visit <http://www.mtu.galway.ie/about-us/jobs/>

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### Planning Notices

**LIMERICK COUNTY COUNCIL**  
Dara O'Connell is applying to Limerick County Council for planning permission for change of use of agricultural outhouses to dog grooming facilities and boarding kennels together with ancillary site works and advertising signage at Goolybrown, Ardlagh Co Limerick. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy of the application and a copy of the application at the offices of the relevant planning authority during its public opening hours and that a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the planning authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within a period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application

### In Memoriam

**Kathleen Corcoran**  
EIGHTH ANNIVERSARY  
In loving memory of KATHLEEN CORCORAN, Dooneen, Millstreet, who died on January 30th, 2010. Will those who think of her today, say a little prayer to Jesus say. (Always remembered by her husband Martin, family and friends)

### Death Notices

**BARNETT (Goleen):** On January 28, 2018, peacefully, at Ranney General Hospital, BRIAN, beloved son of James and much loved husband of Susan, died at 11.30am, Sully missed by her loving sisters Mary and Brenda, brother Denis, brothers-in-law Kieran and Jack, sister-in-law Sophie, nephews, nieces, relatives and friends. Reposing at his residence on Lonsborough Road, Sully (Wednesday) from 4pm. Reception into St Patrick's Church, Golden on Thursday at 11.30am, followed by Requiem Mass at 12 noon. Funeral afterwards to the adjoining cemetery.  
*Rest in peace.*

**LUCY (Cork):** On January 28, 2018, ANNE, Shanakid, Cork, dearly loved wife of James and much loved mother of Suzanne and Brian. Sully missed by her loving husband, daughter, son, brothers, sisters, daughter-in-law Gaira, adored grandson James Conor, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nephews, nieces, relatives and friends. Requiem Mass at 2pm on tomorrow (Wednesday) in the Sacred Heart Church, Western Road. Funeral afterwards to the Island Crematorium, Ringsaskilly, Co. Cork. House private. Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, to Cork Penny Drive.  
*May she rest in peace.*  
[www.jerico.comfunerals.com](http://www.jerico.comfunerals.com)

**MCULLIFFE (Newmarket):** On January 28, 2018, peacefully, at Mallow General Hospital, DENIS, Mount Keefe, husband of late Anne and dear dad of Aedin (Fitzgerald) and Denise (Gunningham) and four daughters, brothers Connie and Dan, sister Ina, sons-in-law Jerry and Robert, granddaughters, brother-in-law, sisters-in-law, nephews, nieces, relatives, neighbours and friends. Requiem Mass on tomorrow (Wednesday) evening from 6pm to 8pm, followed by Requiem Mass on Tuesday at 2pm. Burial immediately afterwards in the adjoining cemetery.

**McCarthy (The Star, Rosscarbery and formerly of Gashleskine):** On January 28, 2018, peacefully, at Cork University Hospital, FELIX, beloved husband of the late Ann and much loved father of Geraldine. Deeply mourned and sadly missed by his daughter, sister-in-law, brother-in-law, nephews, nieces, grandnieces, relatives, neighbours and friends. A special mention to all the staff and friends at Mount Carmel Hospital, Conalshy and also thanks to the doctors and nurses at CHI who cared for Felix in his final days. RIP. Reposing at Daly's Funeral Home, Rosscarbery on today (Tuesday) from 11am, followed by removal at 7.30pm to St Fachtin's Parish Church, Rosscarbery. Requiem Mass on tomorrow (Wednesday) at 12 noon. Burial afterwards in Ross Abbey.  
*Go raibín sé i sáocht.*

**NAGLE (Union Hall):** On January 29, 2018, peacefully, in the tender care of the doctors, nurses and staff of Skibbereen Community Hospital, CONSTANCE (CONNIE) (nee O'Donovan), beloved wife of the late Dan, Spinnice, Union Hall. Deeply regretted by her loving nieces, nephews, relatives, kind neighbours and her many friends. May she rest in peace. Reposing in Shanahan's Funeral Home, Leap. Removal on today (Tuesday) at 7pm to St. Michael's Church, Ballinacorney. Requiem Mass on tomorrow (Wednesday) at 11.30am. Funeral afterwards to the adjoining cemetery.

### Legal and Public Notices Section

**John Joe Jordan**  
20th ANNIVERSARY  
When Life's Journey here is ended,  
And this earth no more you'll tread,  
May your name in gold be written,  
In the Sanguine of God.  
(Sadly missed today and always Margaret, sons, daughter, his brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews, grandchildren, friends and all who knew him.)

**Mulholland**  
15TH ANNIVERSARY  
In loving memory of my dear sister MARGARET on her anniversary.  
(Always remembered by Patsy, John, Jenny and Emma.)  
*Go raibín sí i sáocht.*

**Rutledge**  
In memory of our beloved CATHERINE (nee Healy), late of Westford and Ovens, Co. Cork whose Eighth Anniversary occurs today.  
(Lovingly remembered, Liam, Margaret, Dan and Jo, family and friends.)  
*Ar abeas Dé go raibín a b-anam nua!*

**HUGHES:** (Eighth Anniversary). Fond memories of ELLEN, late of Mastestown, Macroom.  
(Always remembered by Carmel, Seamus, Jack and Hannah.)  
*Ar abeas Dé go raibín a b-anam nua!*

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**Evening Echo** **Irish Examiner**

### Death Notices

**O'DRISCOLL (Skibbereen):** On January 28, 2018, peacefully, at home, surrounded by his loving family, JOHN, (Limerick) brother of a wonderful care of the staff of St. Francis Hospice, Raheny. Most treasured husband of Brenda and adored Dad of Lorna, Sorcha and Jamie and brother of Barry and the late Gerard. David will be sadly missed by his brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews, relations and friends. Rest in peace. Reposing this (Tuesday) afternoon in Stafford's Funeral Home, Strand Road, Portmarnock from 4pm until 6pm. Removal tomorrow (Wednesday) morning to the Church of the Assumption, Howth, arriving for 11.30am Funeral Mass, followed by cremation in Dardistown Crematorium. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to St. Francis Hospice, Raheny. House strictly private. Enquiries to Staffed's Portmarnock 01-8462620.

**O'SULLIVAN DAVID BATT** (Howth, Co. Dublin and formerly of Castlestone, Co. Cork): On January 27, 2018, peacefully in his wonderful care of the staff of St. Francis Hospice, Raheny. Most treasured husband of Brenda and adored Dad of Lorna, Sorcha and Jamie and brother of Barry and the late Gerard. David will be sadly missed by his brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews, relations and friends. Rest in peace. Reposing this (Tuesday) afternoon in Stafford's Funeral Home, Strand Road, Portmarnock from 4pm until 6pm. Removal tomorrow (Wednesday) morning to the Church of the Assumption, Howth, arriving for 11.30am Funeral Mass, followed by cremation in Dardistown Crematorium. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, to St. Francis Hospice, Raheny. House strictly private. Enquiries to Staffed's Portmarnock 01-8462620.

### Death Notices

**RIDGWAY PATRICK** (Briscaurt, Shanakid): Passed away, peacefully, at the Mercy Hospital, Galway, on January 27, 2018, late of Schering Plough (MSD), Briny, Co. Cork, beloved son of the late May and Jack Ridgway and District Nursing Home, Gortree and in the presence of his loving family, NOEL, beloved son of the late Maurice and Margaret and much loved brother of Willie. Sadly missed by his loving family, sister-in-law Brigid, nieces Orla and Sharon, nephews Declan and Shane, grandnieces, grandnephews and Mary, nieces and nephews Patricia, Brian, Jack and Clodagh, grandnephews Chase, cousins, godchildren, neighbours and friends. A wide circle of friends. Reposing at O'Connor Bros. Funeral Home, North Gate Bridge, Rosary on this (Tuesday) evening at 7.00pm. Removal on tomorrow (Wednesday) at 7pm to St. Patrick's Church, Inch, with burial afterwards in the adjoining cemetery.

**O'MAHONY (Kilbrannigan):** On January 27, 2018, at Ballycotton, BANNA, Kilbrannigan, beloved brother of the late Jeremiah (Bobby). Sadly missed by his loving sisters, Mary, Nora and Betty, brother-in-law Pat, nephews, nieces, grandnieces, grandnephews, neighbours, relatives and friends. Requiem Mass on today (Tuesday) at 12 noon in St. Patrick's Church, Kilbrannigan. Funeral afterwards to the adjoining cemetery.  
*May Danny rest in peace.*

**O'MAHONY (Kilbrannigan):** On January 27, 2018, at Ballycotton, DAN (DANN), Banna, Kilbrannigan, beloved brother of the late Jeremiah (Bobby). Sadly missed by his loving sisters, Mary, Nora and Betty, brother-in-law Pat, nephews, nieces, grandnieces, grandnephews, neighbours, relatives and friends. Requiem Mass on today (Tuesday) at 12 noon in St. Patrick's Church, Kilbrannigan. Funeral afterwards to the adjoining cemetery.  
*May Danny rest in peace.*

### Family Notices

**SULLIVAN (Upper Lorch, Litchfield, Essex, Essex, Co. Cork):** On January 28, 2018, unexpectedly, MARY (HARRY). Deeply mourned and sadly missed by her life long partner Harry, sisters Anne (Squire) and Margaret, aunt Loretta (Dwyer), uncle Liam, nieces nephews, relatives, neighbours and friends. Reposing at Harrington's Funeral Home, Castlestone, Co. Cork, on tomorrow (Wednesday) evening with removal at 7.30pm to St. Kenigern's Church, Easton, Rosary Mass on Thursday at 12.30pm, followed by cremation at the Island Crematorium, Ringsaskilly. No flowers, please. Donations, if desired, to Castlestone Coast Guard or the Irish Association of Guide Dogs.  
*May she rest in peace.*

**WILLIAMS PATRICK (PAT)** (Mortabstown, Ardparick, Co. Limerick): On January 27, 2018, suddenly, at residence. Deeply regretted by his loving parents Tim and Dolly, brothers Michael and Tim, sister Margaret, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, sisters-in-law and many friends. RIP. Reposing at John McCarthy & Sons Funeral Home, Kiltinne (Tuesday) evening at 6pm, with removal at 8pm to St. Patrick's Church, Ardparick. Requiem Mass tomorrow (Wednesday) at 11am, with burial in Kiltinne Cemetery.  
*May he rest in peace.*

## Family Notices

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# Human rights officers mooted for gardaí

■ Watchdog wants lawyer, doctor, and psychiatrist for detainees

**Cormac O'Keefe**  
Security Correspondent

Human rights officers should be appointed to every area of policing as part of a comprehensive framework to address persistent problems in An Garda Síochána.

The call from the Irish Council for Civil Liberties (ICCL) is one of a series of recommendations being made to the Policing Commission, which has been tasked to draw up a blueprint for a reformed police force.

In its submission, the ICCL also called for:

- A powerful authority to oversee all state surveillance along with a special parliamentary committee;
- A statutory mechanism to implement the recommendations of the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland;

- The "urgent" establishment of an anti-torture inspection system;
- An ombudsman for victims.

ICCL executive director Liam Herrick, said "major steps" had been taken by successive governments, in response to various controversies, to improve the accountability and effectiveness of An Garda Síochána.

"It remains the case, however, that these reforms have ultimately not been successful in resolving the structural difficulties within Irish policing," said Mr Herrick, adding that the problems of deficient management and breaches of discipline have "persisted".

The ICCL broke its recommendations into four groups.

First, it called for the creation of a comprehensive framework on a statutory basis to embed human rights "in all aspects of policing", including a human rights "monitoring index".

It said: "We also recommend that human rights officers, with the authority to engage with and make recommendations in all areas,

be employed in each of the policing institutions."

The report said that it was crucial that there was a statutory mechanism to implement the recommendations of the Policing Commission.

Second, the ICCL called for greater accountability and transparency, starting with the publication of all internal Garda policies and practices.

In relation to legal accountability, it called for better rights for suspects, including access to a lawyer, doctor, and psychiatrist in detention.

It said there should be a review of Garda disciplinary procedures and the establishment of a statutory scheme for witness protection.

On independent oversight, it called for urgent ratification of the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention Against Torture and the creation of a national preventative mechanism to inspect conditions in all places of deprivation of liberty.

Third, on State security and surveillance, it recommended the creation of a statutory unified supervisory authority to oversee "all" State surveillance, including State security and policing.

"This should be backed up with a parliamentary oversight, with sufficient controls and security clearance.

Fourth, the ICCL called for a fostering of human rights, involving a "commitment to human rights principles on the part of gardaí at every level".

It said human rights training needed to be integrated into all aspects of Garda education."

The ICCL also called for adequate resources for community policing.

■ ICCL launching its document at a seminar at the Wood Quay Venue in Dublin City Council offices at 6pm today.

Editorial: 10



## Student of culture:

Daragh Rice, 16, a transition year student from Coláiste Pobail Osrai, Kilkenny, at the launch of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 programme at the National Museum of Ireland, Dublin.

Picture: Marc O'Sullivan

# Renewed appeal for information on unsolved cases

**Cormac O'Keefe and Joe Leogue**

The family of a young man found outside a remote Mayo house after suffering a head injury have appealed directly to people who they believe have information.

In a renewed appeal in relation to the death of 21-year-old Joe Deacy in Ireland the townland of Gortnasillagh near Swinford on August 11, gardaí and Crimestoppers are also seeking information.

Speaking last night on RTE's *Crimecall*, his father Adrian said: "Someone knows something. How can they live with themselves knowing what they know and still carry on living like they do?"

Speaking earlier to the

*Irish Examiner*, Supt Tony Healy, who is leading the investigation, said: "We know Joe died from a head injury and we are trying to establish the truth.

"We believe people have information that will progress the investigation."

Joe, originally from St Albans in England, was on a fortnight's holiday in Ireland visiting friends and relatives. He was out socialising with friends on August 11 in Kilkenny and later returned to a house in Gortnasillagh where he was staying with friends.

He was found in the driveway of the house by a passing cyclist at around 6am and the alarm was raised.

He was taken to Mayo University Hospital and later to



Joe Deacy, St Albans, England, died in August 2017.

Beaumont Hospital, where he was pronounced dead on August 13.

Adrian described his son as someone who had "friends all over the place."

Joe's cousin, Lauren



Gardaí want to identify a man whose body was found in 2014.

Murray, said that he was a major Mayo GAA fan.

Supt Healy said: "Did you see anyone or any vehicle in the vicinity of Gortnasillagh or the N6 between Swinford and Bohola on Saturday

August 12 between 2.30am and 7am?"

"Have you any information that could assist the investigation team?"

He said Joe was in the house that night after returning home, then came out of the house at some stage between 2.30am and 7am.

Two people have already been arrested in relation to the investigation.

Supt Healy said they had 400 lines of inquiry ongoing. People can contact Claremorris Garda Station on 094 9372080 or Crimestoppers on 1800 230025.

Meanwhile, gardaí in Galway have renewed their appeal for help in identifying the body of a man found near Barra, west of Salthill, over three years ago.

*Crimecall* showed a facial reconstruction image of what the deceased man may have looked like, which was created by Dundee University.

The man was found dead on the evening of September 27, 2014, and while his death is not being treated as suspicious, gardaí have yet to identify the man.

He is described as being between 30 and 40 years of age, approximately 6ft tall, with black hair.

He was of broad/strong build and was wearing a gold Caravelle by Bulova bracelet watch.

Anyone with information can contact Salthill Garda Station on 091 514720, the Garda Confidential Line on 1800 666111 or any station.



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# Tiny pygmy slow loris has hemimandibulectomy

**A world apart...**

England: A trip to the dentist is bad enough at the best of times — but when you're only 8in tall and weigh just 300g, everything is a big deal.

Pygmy slow loris Charlie is probably the first of his species ever to have a hemimandibulectomy — the removal of one side of his lower jaw.

The word is almost as long as Charlie, but if you break it down you find the meaning of hemimandibulectomy — the removal of one side of his lower jaw.

Initially he was seen by the zoo's in-house vets because he had what seemed to be a simple abscess. It turned out to be much worse than initially thought, so help and advice was sought from veterinary dental specialist Matthew Oxford.

Over the next few months, Mr Oxford performed three surgeries on Charlie.

Zoo vet Christa van Wessem said: "Charlie was put on long-term antibiotics and pain relief and given liquid food, which he loved and ate very well with the sutures in place."

"After the first surgery, we really did not want him to chew at all, as it might break down the sutures and inhibit wound healing."

But Charlie suffered a setback when the wound from the first surgery became infected.

Radiographs showed the jaw bone had been damaged by the infection and it was decided to perform the hemimandibulectomy — removing part of his infected lower jaw.

**Horseplay**  
USA: A Florida deputy was caught on video playfully pursuing a four-legged suspect on a busy road.

consumption jumped over 22% in a decade — from 14.9 litres annually in 2006 to 18.2 litres in 2016.

"We had to do something," said the health minister, Aurelijus Veryga.

"[Alcoholism] makes Lithuania unattractive to foreign investments and tourism."

Members of the opposition have already filed amendments seeking to repeal the harshest aspects of the law.

**Brairy bird**  
Japan: A bird with a hatred of snakes has an over-active imagination that can turn a harmless stick into a deadly serpent.

When the Japanese tit hears a rattling alarm call, it cannot help but think of snakes, a study has found.

The ability to visualise a specific mental image in response to a vocal sound was once thought to be unique to humans.

Scientists used an inanimate wooden stick to demonstrate the same talent in the Japanese tit, a songbird that produces particular alarm calls only when it encounters dangerous snakes.

In a series of experiments, recordings of snake-specific calls were played while the birds approached a stick being moved in a serpentine fashion up a tree trunk or along the ground.

The birds responded as if threatened, but ignored the stick if other calls were played or the stick's movement was not snake-like enough.

**Jobs risk**  
England: One in five jobs in British cities is likely to be displaced by 2030 because of automation and globalisation, a report predicts.

Retail, customer service and warehouse jobs are among those most at threat of being lost, said Centre For Cities. The think tank said struggling cities in the North and Midlands were more exposed to job losses than weather cities in the south, compounding the north/south divide.

## Art of skiing



Natasha Muirhead with a 1939 lithograph poster called 'Splitkein' by Harald Damsleth at a photocall at Lyon & Turnbull in Edinburgh, Scotland, ahead of a winter sports arts auction of rare posters of European resorts including Chamonix, Combloux, and Mont Blanc on January 31.

Picture: PA