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2006

## The Compact, Issue 10, November, 2006

DIT: Students' Union

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# the compact




10

NOVEMBER 2006

dit students' union



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# Lifesize.



Irish Independent   
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# the compact

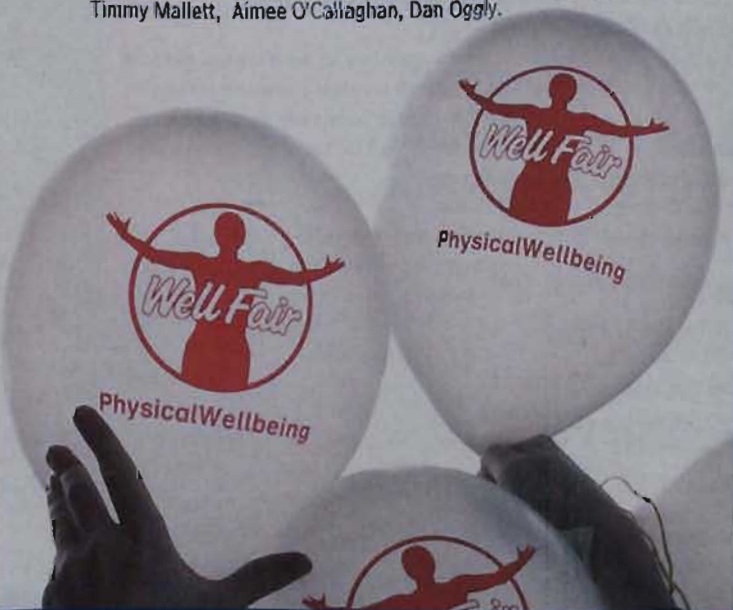
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## EDITORIAL



It's a bit of a strange time for Irish music at the moment. U2 are going as strong as ever, recently receiving Q magazine's Award of Awards, which might just be the most made-up gong we've ever heard of. But the bubblegum Oirish pop of years gone by seems to be dying a death, with only Westlife repping for that posse of cretins.

There is however a lot of new Irish bands on the scene, bands who are making records that sound different to what we're used to. We're a generation raised on moany, apologetic singer-songwriters, so it'll be interesting to see what we make of the swagger of Humanzi, or the art school rock of The Immediate. Our special on Irish music kicks off

on page 18, and we've also got an exclusive review and photos of Fionn Regan's recent gig at Whelan's.

Funny how things come back into fashion just when you least expect. Like its main man Kurt Cobain, grunge has been dead since the mid-90s, but style is a strange thing and the layered grunge look is back. You can find out more on pages 14-15, where we tell you how to achieve the look for cheap - without having to buy all your clothes off the homeless guy down the road.

Our student hero this issue is Timmy Mallett, who talks about nostalgia, the Blarney Stone and saving a woman's life. What a man.

As well as that we've got the usual mix of college news, comment and a few photos too from recent social events. Enjoy, see you next time.

Neil



Hey Guys,  
I can't believe it's already the second edition of The Compact, time just seems to be flying by. Freshers' Week, the Halloween Ball and Well Fair Week have all come and gone already.

So with Christmas just around the corner you're probably wondering what the next few weeks have in store? Well you won't be disappointed, this year's Tradfest will be taking place on November 21, and with the line-up we have planned chances are it could be the best yet. Tickets will be on sale across campus and will be sold

on a first come first served basis so make sure to grab them quick, because something tells me the demand for these babies is going to be huge!

All is well on the societies front with plenty of activity. Drama Soc are to launch the new theatre in Aungier Street with their production of The Hot House, Red Soc's first big gig of the year is coming up, and paintballers are busy planning inter-site competitions. To find out what else is going on go to [www.socs.dit.ie](http://www.socs.dit.ie).

The first governing council has finally taken place after a bit of a set back which was beyond our control. Councillor positions are still available on a number of sites so if you're interested contact your convenor or call into the nearest union office. So to the future: Christmas, Rag Week, SHAG, and more welfare campaigns all lie ahead, along with a lot more besides. So stay in touch and stay involved.

Slán,  
Fiona  
VP Services

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## Well Fair Week 06

**THE STUDENT AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT PRESENTED THE FIRST OF THE WELL FAIR CAMPAIGNS LAST WEEK. AMONG THE FREE FRUIT, CLUB DEMONSTRATIONS, INFORMATION LEAFLETS, HEALTH CHECK ACTIVITIES AND FANCY BALLOONS THERE WAS AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE BEING PROMOTED TO ALL STUDENTS.**

UNION NEWS  
STUDENT AFFAIRS DEPT

A healthy balance of foods provides the energy and nourishment every student needs to survive and enjoy their busy college lifestyles. The right balance is important both in the amount and in the types of foods eaten. Being active and getting into a routine of physical activity is vital for a healthy lifestyle. In the long term, it can help prevent ill health later in life. Eating a healthy diet can help you feel better, perform better in class and cope with stress.



### TEN TIPS FOR A HEALTHIER BODY

- 1. Avoid fast foods**  
Don't over indulge with fast food. If you must eat fast foods, choose wisely. Limit fried food and try out some of the salads on offer.
- 2. Healthy snacks**  
For when you're feeling peckish, keep some healthy snacks at hand. Fresh or dried fruit, unbuttered popcorn or rice cakes. You might think they taste like cardboard but if you try adding some sliced banana, you'll be pleasantly surprised.
- 3. Them bones them bones need calcium**  
And that's a natural lawwww! It's important to eat plenty of foods rich in calcium. People in their early 20s need to build up stores of calcium to keep their bones good and strong. If you don't like milk, try to include some low-fat cheese, green leafy vegetables or low-fat yoghurt in your diet.
- 4. Alcohol**  
If you drink alcohol, remember that it supplies calories but no nutritional value. A light beer, a glass of wine, or an ounce of liquor each has about 100 calories. There are also many health problems associated with drinking.
- 5. Water**  
Drink loads of water! Your body needs at least eight glasses a day. Eight bottles of fizzy cola won't do. To remind yourself, carry a water bottle along to class and keep it handy during late-night study sessions.

### 6. Leafy greens

Choose carefully what you eat from your local canteen, your lunch can be either an asset or detriment to your diet depending on what you choose.

### 7. Breakfast

The most important meal of the day! Studies show that skipping breakfast detracts from your academic achievement. If you are a late riser and are always rushing out the door, keep some fruit or juice at hand.

### 8. Get active!

It's important to make time for some exercise everyday. Join a club or society in college that entails fun physical activity, join the gym to 'pump those guns', walk to college if the weather's not too bad or go for a run if you can find those trainers.

### 9. Sweet enough?

Sugar provides calories in your diet but few other nutrients and it contributes significantly to tooth decay. So use it sparingly and consider sweetening coffee, tea, cereal and fruit with diet sweeteners instead.

### 10. Your body is your temple

Remember that food is a lot more than nourishment for our bodies. Enjoy and savour it. Healthy eating doesn't mean giving up your favourite foods.



# Fire at DIT Portland Row

DIT NEWS

SASCHA MORRISSEY

DIT PORTLAND ROW WAS CLOSED FOR THREE DAYS RECENTLY AFTER A FIRE BROKE OUT IN AN APARTMENT BUILDING BESIDE THE COLLEGE. THE INCIDENT ON OCTOBER 26 CAUSED SMOKE DAMAGE AND A POWER CUT IN THE OTHER BUILDING. THE ALARM WAS RAISED AROUND 2AM THAT MORNING, AND THE APARTMENTS WERE EVACUATED SOON AFTER.



The incident was caused by an electrical fault in the fuse room used for the apartments and the college. There was a lot of smoke, and damage to the fuse room and the room next to it, but no flames. The college suffered a loss of power, but there was no other damage sustained.

Students of Fine Arts at Portland Row learned about the fire the following morning. "I was on my way into college when I discovered they weren't letting anyone inside," said Bríd Hughes, class rep for 3rd year Fine Arts. No students were allowed into the college until the following Tuesday, October 31.

The loss of three working days may have put some students out, but lecturers have agreed to give students extensions in view of the setback. Michelle Connolly, 4th year Fine Arts class rep, said: "We only lost three days, but it was an inconvenience for some. That building has a lot of fire hazards; you'll see reports on that going back for years."

Porters at DIT Portland Row say they consider it safe, with fire escapes on every landing. Since the fire, power has been restored in the college and is working perfectly. The systems are being fully investigated for possible errors, but so far seem to be in a good condition.

Five residents of the apartment building were hospitalised due to smoke inhalation. Fire units and ambulances were called to the site immediately, and it took 11 fire units to bring the blaze under control. Fire crews helped people out of the building, with some of those evacuated spending the night in emergency accommodation in Mountjoy Prison.

## Campus 2006/07

### Student Return Fares From Dublin



Limerick	- €15.00
Cork	- €12.00
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Waterford	- €12.00
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Clonmel	- €14.50
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# 5 MINUTES WITH:

**Mark Breen**  
Events & Marketing Manager

INTERVIEW : FIONA KOVERO

PHOTOGRAPH : ADAM LESTER

### What's your favourite thing about DIT?

Well I've only been here a few weeks, but the one thing that strikes me the most about this place is the people. DIT people are the most helpful on the planet!

### What's your least favourite?

A possible downside is in relation to my job, that everything is spread over six campuses and so logistically this can be quite difficult. But I prefer to think of this as a challenge, and it's one of the reasons I accepted the position.

### What was your very first job?

A lifeguard. I swam competitively for a number of years and so trained as a lifeguard, and worked for the local County Council when I was 16. It was brilliant. At the time they paid more than the average jobs that all my mates had.

### What's your favourite season of the year and why?

Summer, no question. For the simple reason that I love driving my motorcycle and everything is better for motorcycle driving in the summer. Better weather, improved road quality, and usually less people around for me to crash into!

### What's your favourite album of all time?

I have quite an eclectic taste in music so it's hard to pick just one...can I have two? Definitely would have to have Hotel California, I absolutely love The Eagles, they're such amazing lyricists. For the same reason I would also have to choose Dr. Dre's The Chronic. But maybe the Eagles as number one!

**What song is guaranteed to get you on the dance floor?**  
Sound of the Police by KRS-One, guaranteed to get everyone on the dance floor.

**Which luxury item would bring to a desert island?**  
My mobile phone. Can I have one of those satellite phones that get reception anywhere? I'm a complete text addict.

**Which gadget can you not live without?**  
Definitely my phone again.

**What was your favourite book as a child?**  
The Hardy Boys series or Nancy Drew. Anything that presented a mystery that I could figure out.

**What did you want to be when you were growing up?**  
A rescue diver, the people who actually jump out of the rescue helicopters and rescue people.

**If your house was on fire, what would you rescue?**  
If people dear to me were in the house they'd obviously come out first, the nice girl I live with, my sister. But an object? Probably my CD collection. Not my phone because that's permanently in my pocket so I wouldn't need to rescue it!

**Which period of history would you have liked to live in?**

I hate history! People looking back drives me mad. I'd rather choose the present and maybe just change a few things.



**What three people would you invite to a dinner party?**  
Gordon Ramsey because he would keep everyone amused and he could tell me (brutally) if I was a good cook. Don Henley from The Eagles, because you obviously need some music after dinner, and finally Valentino Rossi, that man is simply the best motorcycle driver.

**Do you have a favourite newspaper/magazine?**  
The Times, and at the weekend I buy the Sunday Times. The whole paper could keep you going all week but I particularly like the Style supplement. I just love the layout and design; there is a lot of thought put into it. And the photography is superb, which really appeals, as I love fashion shots.

**Dogs or cats?**  
Not particularly into animals but if I had to choose, dogs. But only big dogs like the one from the Dulux ad.

**Best thing about living in Dublin?**  
Only here a year but the best thing about Dublin is that it has everything. You might not see it straight away but anything you're into culture-wise: art, clubs, music, anything, it's all here.

**What's your least favourite sport?**  
Formula One. I understand that there is a lot of skill and sweat involved but in my opinion it's more down to engineering and mechanics, and so can't be classed as a proper sport.

**What's your guilty pleasure?**  
Custard. My mother makes me custard every time I go home.

**Sum up DIT in three words.**  
New, challenging and friendly.



**THERE ARE MANY TIMES IN OUR LIVES WHEN WE FEEL DOWN: WHEN OUR RELATIONSHIP ENDS, WHEN WE FAIL AN EXAM, WHEN WE FIGHT WITH OUR FAMILIES OR FRIENDS. SOMETIMES THIS FEELING PASSES WITH TIME AND WE BEGIN TO FEEL 'OURSELVES' AGAIN. SOMETIMES WE NEED MORE HELP WITH IT. SOMETIMES WE FEEL DEPRESSED.**

Depression has been described in many different ways, with some stating that it is a medical disease caused by a neurochemical or hormonal imbalance. There are some that say that depression is caused by certain negative and self-deprecating ways of thinking. Others define depression as a result of unfortunate experiences like the death of a loved one, the end of a relationship, or a big change in our lives.

Whatever the cause of the depression, what is known is that it causes people to feel very low in themselves, to lose all lust for life, to isolate and alienate themselves from friends and family and to lose motivation to do many of the normal things in their lives.

But how do we recognize if we, or anybody that we know, is experiencing a period of depression? Symptoms of depression usually include:

- Exhaustion on waking
- Disrupted sleep, sometimes through upsetting dreams
- Early morning waking and difficulty getting back to sleep
- Doing less of what they used to enjoy
- Feeling 'low' and 'down'
- Difficulty concentrating during the day
- Change in appetite
- Anxious worrying and intrusive upsetting thoughts
- Becoming emotional or upset for no particular reason
- Shortness of temper, or irritability

Many people may recognize feeling some or all of these symptoms, not knowing what to call it. They just know that they don't feel good about themselves or their lives at that time. If you, or anyone you know, is feeling down and unable to cope please contact any of the services listed opposite.

Catherine Bolger is a counsellor at DIT Cathal Brugha St.

COUNSELLING  
CATHERINE BOLGER

# Blue Monday

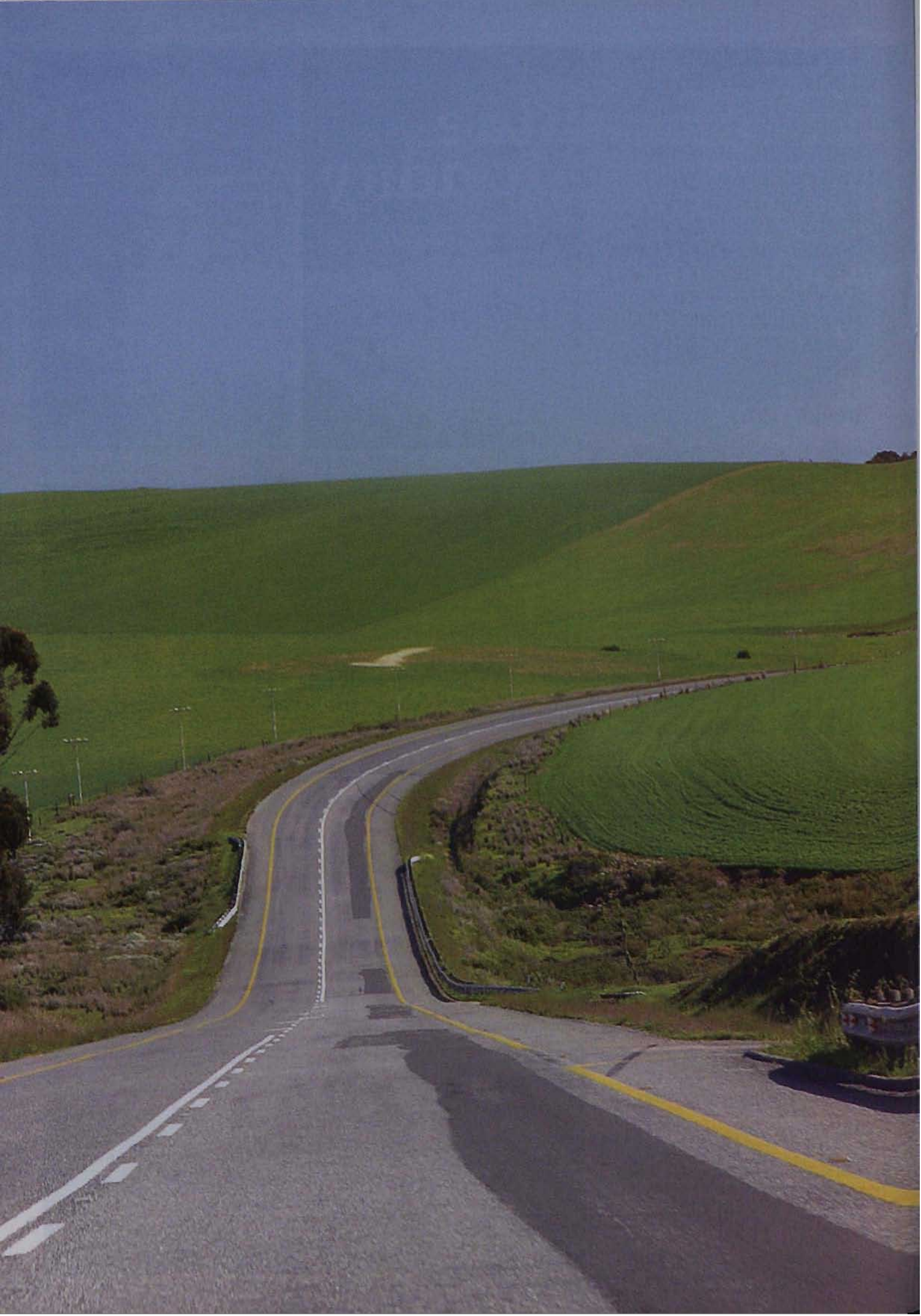


## CONTACTS:

DIT Student Counselling Service  
(01) 4023352  
086 0820543  
DIT Medical Service at  
(01) 4023051/4023614  
AWARE  
(01) 6617211  
www.aware.ie  
The Samaritans at  
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**"IRLANDÉS, YEAH?"  
ASKED THE TAXI DRIVER.  
WE NODDED OUR HEADS,  
FEELING THE WRINKLES  
FORM ON OUR BROWS.  
"AH, YOU DRIVE HERE,  
YEAH?" AND WITH THAT  
HE SWERVED TO THE  
OPPOSITE SIDE OF THE  
WINDING ROAD, JUST  
BEFORE A BLIND TURN  
AROUND A HILL.**

Perhaps Jesús, our taxi driver in Salobrena, Spain last July, had a twisted idea of what road safety means. It seems that some young Irish drivers sadly share his mentality, but they are not the only culprits in what is one of the biggest problems faced by this country. So who is to blame?

#### The Government?

The EU Road Safety Action Plan has set a target of a 50% reduction in road deaths in the EU by 2010 - so every government in the Union has to come up with the goods by then. It's easy to get the impression that Mr. Ahern and his henchmen run scared the moment dealing with a real crisis like this is mentioned.

But the government has made quite a bit of progress in the last six years. Granted, they made a target of reducing road deaths by 25% by 2006 and failed miserably. To meet their target, it would have required there to be only 300 deaths on Irish roads this year, and already we've exceeded this number.

In 2000, the total of those who lost their lives in road collisions came to a whopping

415. The figures have steadily decreased in the years following. When viewed in this light, the government seem to have achieved something.

One of the most notable Government moves came when Transport Minister Martin Cullen formally established the Road Safety Authority (RSA). The RSA deal with the regulation of driving instruction, the reviewing of the commercial vehicle roadworthiness testing system and developing road safety promotion materials.

As of September 1, the RSA also took over some of the statutory functions of the Department of Transport. With their headquarters in Ballina, Co. Mayo, and 129 staff on hand there, as well as 41 in Loughrea Co. Galway and 139 more in 52 driving test centres around the country, the RSA will be able to devote all their attentions to road safety.

Unlike government ministers, they won't be worrying about being re-elected, or coming up with quick fix ways to please the public in the immediate future. Whoever is in office after this May, the RSA will at least remain to continue work on road safety.

#### The Gardaí?

What role do the Gardaí play in all this, past enforcing the laws the government have finally begun to bring in? Well it's up to them to devote the right amount of time, energy, care and general common sense to this issue. The question is whether they're doing that or not.

In the first weekend of Mandatory Alcohol Testing (MAT) in July this year, there were 676 checkpoints, with 3904 persons were checked. Out of these, a total of 69 were



found to be over the alcohol limit. Let's not be naïve - there were a lot more than 69 drivers on the roads over that weekend that were over the limit. They just didn't get caught. A few months on, however, and the MAT has become more frequent, widespread and random, and while it's too early to say for definite, the indications are that it is having an effect.

In terms of manpower, the Gardaí at present devote about 680 guards to traffic and road safety, and will add another 120 over the remainder of the year. Their target strength by 2008 is 1,200. We'll have to wait and see if this is a target that can be reached.

#### Drivers?

It seems a little unfair to place all the blame for our current situation on the government and Gardaí. In reality, these measures would not be required if drivers weren't so careless with their lives and the lives of others, with most collisions caused by reckless or drink driving. In the first six months of 2006, a total of 7,863 drink driving offences were detected. This was a 28% increase from last year.

There have also been 93,279 fixed charge penalty notices issued since the Fixed Charge Penalty System was introduced on the April 3 of last year. These were issued for a variety of offences, including careless driving, seat belt offences, tailgating, and so on. Clearly, it is the drivers that are culpable for much of the carnage on our roads today. Unfortunately, they aren't looking for our votes.

The statistics speak for themselves - it is drivers that need to change most, and not the Gardaí or even the government.



# A Team Effort Crashes Wedding



UNION NEWS

REBECCA O'NEILL/BOB COGGINS

**I**n order to serve the students in the best way possible, it's important that DITSU's elected officers can work as a team. Quite where balancing on a thin wire, climbing a telegraph pole and freezing cold Co Louth water comes into that is anyone's guess. But that was the plan for the SU's Teambuilding weekend which took place recently.

Detours and lightening speed brought us all to the Adventure Centre, smack bang in the middle of the small town of Carlingford, on the Cooley peninsula.

Thursday night was our one night off, and we took it easy: settling into our rooms, getting a bite to eat...and then launching ourselves on the town. A town with no nightclub. But we've been students long enough to know how to overcome problems like that and the keen ears of Nick heard what sounded like a little bit of a shindig happening in the Four Seasons just on the edge of the town. Once there, we found ourselves crashing the most welcoming wedding party that a team of wedding crashers could ever find, with a late bar far exceeding requirements! We kept the dancefloor full all night, dressed in appropriate wedding attire like hoodies and trainers. See the photos for evidence.

Waking up the next morning just a little worse for wear but rearing to go, until we found out we'd missed breakfast. Killer blow. And it got worse as we were bundled into the centre's van and delivered to a field just outside the

town. Equipped with helmets and harnesses, we walked towards what could only describe as a torture apparatus. One after another the team scaled the 30 foot telegraph pole, until four of them were balancing precariously on the biscuit tin lid that topped it. It felt like controlled suicide. Leaning back they all fell to be caught by their safety harnesses.

The next three climbed up, and managed to balance for a good minute or two, having held on to each other (team touching), they fell as well. The next torture, I mean team building exercise, was to scale an evil contraption involving more heights, poles and wires. Escaping back to the exercise centre we were given a slap up meal, followed by the advice to equip ourselves with swimsuits and towels, which prompted some worried expressions.

The team were informed that we had to complete a set of puzzles to get all the items we would need to make a seaworthy raft. A couple of jigsaw and maths problems later, we were divided into two groups of four and each team were given two surf boards, two planks of wood, and three lengths of ropes. We had to construct a raft that would bring us on a round course just offshore.

Only one raft actually made it around the course, and that was the one constructed by Ciaran, Hamid, Ita and myself, with the second raft disappearing under the waves quickly enough. Victory tasted sweet, until our raft was boarded by the defeated team,

and submerged after a lot of wrangling, with all of the team ending up in the water. After showers and recovering from our wetsuit ordeals, the team settled into a very satisfying dinner, and once again got ready to head into town. Friday nights turned out to be just a little livelier in Carlingford, but we couldn't resist a return to the hotel for another wedding crash.

Having earlier dispatched two delegates to the border for fireworks, we infiltrated the wedding party and got the dj to announce the fireworks display, which won us an invitation to the late bar once more, from a delighted couple of newlyweds. We are now taking bookings for weddings, just contact [communications@ditsu.ie](mailto:communications@ditsu.ie)

Managing to get up even later than the day before and once again missing breakfast, we were happy to see our patient guide (a guide for us patients!) waiting for us. Saturday morning saw us challenged with a little more thinking than our minds could really handle. The last day of the trip saw more falling on our asses, doing the blindfold train, ringing the giant's thumb (don't ask) as well as some high-wire balancing acts.

Trundling back to the centre and recovering with a cup of tea and another big lunch. The team then divided back into the cars and all relaxed as they made their way home. Another job well done, even if we'll never look at a telegraph pole the same way again.





DIT NEWS  
OONAGH O'MAHONY

## Education Minister Visits DIT

**DIT'S MOVE TO A SINGLE CAMPUS AT GRANGEGORMAN WILL BRING A GREATER SENSE OF UNITY TO BOTH STAFF AND STUDENTS, ACCORDING TO MINISTER FOR EDUCATION MARY HANAFIN. SHE SAID THAT IT MEANT "AN EXCITING FUTURE AHEAD FOR DIT," AND ADDED THAT SHE BELIEVED DIT WAS SPECIAL IN COMBINING SUCH A WIDE VARIETY OF INTERESTS.**

Ms Hanafin was speaking at the Halloween Night opening of the Westby Food processing Hall at Sackville Place. While the rest of the country was preparing for a night of fancy dress, the staff of DIT's culinary arts and food technology department was already in their glad rags for this somewhat more auspicious occasion. In attendance were representatives of Altro Brooks, sponsors of the facility, and family members of the late Ann Westby, to whom the hall is dedicated.

DIT President Brian Norton said that the new facility was the "jewel in the crown" for the college's tourism and food faculty. He said the investment would go a long way to maintain both the national and international reputation of DIT in the food processing industry.

In her address, Minister Hanafin highlighted the importance of getting hands-on experience in such industries. She said that there had been "a change in consciousness" relating to nutrition and pointed to the developments in organic foods. Ms Hanafin stressed the importance of investments such as this for the tourism industry, which demanded "quality, indigenous foods".

Following the official ceremony, the minister was given a guided tour of the new laboratory and research facilities. The lab is fitted with multifunctional stainless steel workstations with the whole area designed to the highest standard, ensuring that the food processing process is streamlined and that no overlapping in research occurs. As the minister was guided around the state of the art laboratory she quipped "for all the modernity, I see the old mixing bowl still looks the same". Some might question the investment of €400,000 in the project, with the move to Grangegorman looming ever

closer. But Michael Mulvey, Director for Tourism and Food at DIT, explained that the faculty needed the facilities in the interim, and that with no exact date set for the move to Grangegorman, the investment would be well rewarded.

Other staff members joked that the kitchen facilities were designed to be completely mobile, something that will come in handy when they move to Grangegorman. Speaking on the subject of the proposed move, the minister said she was satisfied with its progress so far. The Development Agency has been established and it is up to them to iron out the final details, explained Ms Hanafin.

The food hall is to be named in honour of the late Mrs. Anne Westby, former Chief Executive of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland whose 30-year contribution to the Irish food industry was praised by both Professor Brian Norton and Ms Hanafin.





# Isn't it iron-ic?

**IRON GETS A LOT OF BAD PRESS. IT'S BEEN LINKED TO CORONARY ARTERY DISEASE, WITH THE SUGGESTION THAT IRON STORED IN THE HEART CAN LEAD TO THE POTENTIALLY FATAL CONDITION. BUT MOST OF THE RESEARCH HASN'T FOUND A LINK, AND IT ONLY HAPPENS IN EXTREME CASES. THE FACT IS THAT MOST OF US NEED MORE IRON THAN WE'RE GETTING AT THE MOMENT.**



**O**bviously we need to take care, as with any element of our diet, not to overload on one particular nutrient but if you do need more iron, opposite are some tips on how to get it.

FOOD

AIVEEN CULLY

- Meat, poultry, fish, eggs, enriched pastas and bread, whole grains, fortified cereals, and leafy green vegetables are good sources of iron.

- Iron that comes from animal sources (e.g., meat, poultry, fish, eggs) is easier for your body to absorb than iron that comes from plants.

- Eating meat and vegetables together helps your body absorb the iron that comes from the vegetables.

- Cooking in iron pots, such as cast iron pans, adds iron to the foods you cook.

- Eating foods high in vitamin C with meals helps your body to absorb the iron in the meal.

- Cut down on coffee and tea, as elements in those drinks can interfere with your body's ability to absorb iron from food.

\*Tips taken from [ww2.heartandstroke.ca](http://ww2.heartandstroke.ca)

These recipes are a great source of iron and fibre, and shouldn't take very long to prepare

## KORMA CHOW MEIN

Ingredients:

375g fresh noodles  
1 tbsp. mild curry paste such as korma, use more if a spicier dish is preferred  
400 g thinly sliced beef  
500g frozen chow mein vegetable mix  
2 tbsp. lemon juice  
2 tbsp. unsalted roasted peanuts  
2 tbsp. canola oil

1. Cook the noodles according to the directions on the packet. Drain and toss with 1 teaspoon of the oil.
2. Heat the remaining oil in a non-stick wok or large frying pan over a high heat. Add the beef (or soy beans) and curry paste and stir-fry over high heat for one minute. If using beef, transfer it to a plate and set aside.
3. Add the frozen vegetables to the pan. Reduce the heat to medium, cover and cook for three to four minutes. Remove the lid and add the noodles, lemon juice and beef. Heat through. Use two forks to fluff up the noodles.
4. Arrange on serving plates, sprinkle with the peanuts and serve.

## FAST SPINACH AND BEANS

Ingredients:

1 onion, chopped  
1 or 2 garlic cloves, minced  
2 teaspoons lemon juice  
4 teaspoons water  
2 teaspoons dill  
1 teaspoons basil  
1 teaspoons oregano  
1/2 teaspoons pepper  
Bunch of cleaned leaf spinach

1. Prepare the pasta or rice in a pot.
2. Saute the onion and garlic until it smells wonderful and then add the lemon juice and water.
3. Stir in the seasonings and then the spinach.
4. Stir until it wilts or is thoroughly blended. Serve alone or over pasta.

## POWERHOUSE COOKIES

Ingredients:

75g butter  
2 eggs  
100g oatmeal  
1/2 tsp. salt  
1/2 tsp. nutmeg  
25g. raisins  
25g sugar  
50g flour  
1/2 tsp. soda  
1 tsp. cinnamon  
1/4 tsp. ground cloves  
75g. high iron cereal  
25g chopped nuts (optional)

1. Place butter, sugar and cream together in a large bowl; add eggs and beat until fluffy.
2. In medium bowl combine flour, oatmeal, soda, salt, cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves. Add dry ingredients to creamed mixture.
3. Stir in raisins, cereal and nuts.
4. Drop rounded teaspoons of the mixture onto an ungreased cookie sheet.
5. Bake in preheated oven at 400 ° for 10 - 12 minutes.



I know it may have seemed like The Man fucked up my last article, but 'they' assured me that each paragraph had been repeated because they felt it was such a good read. And looking at it that way, I suppose it also gave you time to reflect. Well here's something else to reflect on. What's the first thing that comes to your mind when you hear the word 'Christmas'? For me, it's definitely my bank statement, which at Christmas time, always appears in dollars in my imagination. Why? Because America has ruined Christmas.

It used to be true to say 'Jaysus, they're not long back at school, but its Christmas time already.' But even that doesn't cover it anymore, with certain department stores opening their festive displays so early that it'll soon be normal to see daffodils in Christmas wreaths. The commotion has started so early I almost feel Australian because all I'm seeing is seasonal decorations going up in the summer.



## It's never too early to be a Christmas Humbug

One of the sad things is that if it continues like this we will eventually have no such thing as after-Christmas sales. There'll be no such thing as after-Christmas, we'll just be before the next one. I suppose this point is meant to alarm all you females who love the sales. Come to think of it, the only thing that could stop Christmas being all year round is a shower of angry women. Ahh women in a shower, now there's a thought. Sorry where was I?

I know some of you are thinking, 'this fella is a real grinch'. But I'm not. We all remember our fathers telling us how if they even received a stick that was the shape of a toy gun they would be over the moon. Off the wall, more like. And I suppose it's fair to say I'll be telling my kids about how I was happy with a train set, but haven't things become ridiculous at this stage. What will our kids be telling our grandchildren at this rate? It'll be something like 'I was happy with my trip to the International Space Station from Santa.'

I'm not entirely sure what is the best way to combat premature X-Mas. I toyed with the idea of blowing up America, but the disease has already infected Ireland so it would be a waste of time. I can't help but think that if Jesus had been born on February 29 it would have helped. Maybe Dan Brown could stick it in his next book, and hope for the best. The result would be Christmas every four years, which would mean that even if the build-up did last a year, we would have three years of peace. Of course, things never work that way, and you know as well as I do that the commercial world wouldn't stand for it.

So there's really not a lot we can do about the situation, and there are lots of positive points about it, such as employment, money circulation, and Nitelinks serving the countryside (us bidders can go out in the big shmoke). But I am not here to be positive because positive doesn't mean happy. Americans are positive, with their whitened teeth smiles and the "how are y'all?". But do happy people go around dropping bombs? Not at all. We were much happier when we were negative, starving, oppressed, when Radiohead were top of the charts and when Christmas dinner was a potato cooked in an unusual way, or even cooked at all.

One of the ironies in the whole shebang is that no matter how early they start trying to get their filthy hands on my wallet, I still seem to leave it until Christmas Eve to start buying presents. And they get me then too, putting prices up and stock down. I'm sure that most of you feel the same as me on the whole issue. If you don't, I at least hope that I have depressed you in some small way. When a few people are depressed, The Man just puts them on tablets. But if the whole world becomes depressed in unity who knows what we could achieve.

**I FEEL LIKE \*#!\***

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# Dirty Pretty Things

IF YOU'RE FOND OF YOUR WINTER WOOLLIES, THIS COULD BE JUST THE LOOK FOR YOU. YES, GRUNGE AND ITS PENCHANT FOR LAYERING (AND LAYERING SOME MORE) IS BACK. OVER A DECADE ON, THIS TREND IS ROCKING THE CATWALK AND IS RELATIVELY EASY TO SPORT ON THE STREETS TOO. THE STAPLES ARE THE SAME: TIGHTER THAN TIGHT JEANS, A PLAID SHIRT AND OF COURSE, CONVERSE.

**B**ack in 1992, this craze hit the streets to a soundtrack of Pearl Jam and Nirvana. But the current take on grunge is slightly more refined: a little less 'bag lady' and a little more chic. While the look is still dishevelled, sequins, leopard print and dashes of fur have been added into the mix.

This look is about layering but you can keep it simple, it's also about contrast and working with textures. Glam up your layers with flimsy fabrics like chiffon and silk and whimsical patterns and prints. Team them with wool knitwear and strong pieces like military jackets, hoodies and thermal shirts. For example, wear a t-shirt, a floral dress and a v-neck sweater together. Shirts, sweaters, waistcoats and funky skirts and dresses are great for layering and can be found all over the high street from Topshop and A-Wear to H&M and Penneys.

Strong colours are central to this look but team them with more muted tones; use black, white and grey but add a dash of colour with reds, blues and greens. If you want to punk up your look, add graffiti-splattered prints and wide stripes.

The likes of leggings, tights and ankle socks will keep you snug and also add another dimension to your ensemble. Accessories finish it off perfectly from chunky gloves, scarves and beanies to the biggest of bags. Ad-Hoc, Shoko and the stalls off Grafton Street have plenty of choice and if you're tight on cash, you'll find some great legwarmers that are perfect for over boots but will double as mittens too.

If you want to strut this look full on, heavy lace up boots or chunky Doc Martens are the way to go but for all others, Converse and shoes with attitude (think studs, spikes and daring colours) are the footwear of choice. The new grunge is prettier than ever but the key principle is still the same: layer. If in doubt, just add some more!







**ABOVE:**

Black top, H&M;  
 Military jacket, Eager Beaver;  
 Belt, for similar see A-wear;  
 Sequined scarf, Miss Selfridge;  
 Shoes, Schuh.

**OPPOSITE PAGE:**

Black v-neck jumper, Miss Selfridge;  
 Waistcoat, for similar see Wild Child;  
 Grey jeans, Topshop;  
 Gloves, for similar see Ad hoc;  
 Converse, Office.

**LEFT:**

Dress, Urban Outfitters;  
 Black 3/4 length sleeved top, for  
 similar see H&M;  
 Scarf, A-Wear;  
 Mittens, for similar see Shoko;  
 Black socks, Pennys;  
 White pumps, Topshop.

**RIGHT:**

Green long sleeved top, Bershka;  
 Black jumper, Sabotage;  
 Waistcoat, for similar see TK Maxx;  
 Black denim skirt, Urban Outfitters;  
 Tights, Pennys;  
 Boots, Wild Child;  
 Black Bag, Topshop;  
 Belt, Ad hoc or Fresh.

**MODEL**

Carol Mahon







## Free Speech has a cost for Trinity.

STUDENT INSIGHT  
KEVIN BYRNE

SUPPOSE A DIT SOCIETY ORGANISED A DEBATE WITH A NOTORIOUS SPOKESPERSON FOR THE KU KLUX KLAN – HOW WOULD YOU REACT AS A DIT STUDENT? MOST PEOPLE READING THIS COLUMN WOULD AGREE THAT A RACIST ORGANISATION THAT INCITES HATRED SHOULDN'T BE GIVEN A PLATFORM TO PUBLICLY PROCLAIM THAT HATRED.



## TG4: worth every penny.

STUDENT INSIGHT  
AIDAN COUGHLAN

IT'S LÁ BREITHE SHONA, HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND EVEN BON ANNIVERSAIRE TO TG4 AS THE COUNTRY'S MOST ECLECTIC TELEVISION STATION CELEBRATES TEN YEARS ON THE AIR. WITH EVERYTHING FROM IRISH FASHION SHOWS TO VINTAGE ALL-IRELAND FINALS, IT REALLY IS A STATION WITH SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE. BUT IS ECLECTICISM THE ONLY THING THE STATION IS GOOD FOR?



## Why shouldn't kids play violent games?

STUDENT INSIGHT  
YUVRAJ PARIHAR

'BULLY' COMES TO YOU FROM THE SAME TEAM THAT BROUGHT US THE GRAND THEFT AUTO SERIES, WHICH, JUST FOR THE RECORD, HAPPENS TO BE ONE OF MY FAVOURITE GAME FRANCHISES. EVERYONE PROBABLY KNOWS WHAT GTA IS ALL ABOUT: CAR-JACKING, PEOPLE-WHACKING, VERBAL-ABUSING – BUT MOST OF ALL IT'S ABOUT FUN.



I'd like to think that DIT, as a respected institute of learning, would not provide such an individual with an opportunity to publicise such a radical ideology. So why does Trinity College repeatedly allow their Philosophical Society to provide Anjem Choudary, a blatant sectarian and extremist, a platform to preach what Labour TD Joe Costello called "a form of incitement to hatred?"

Last year the same TCD society invited Choudary to a debate, and just a few weeks ago again provided a platform for this marginalised extremist to spout out his dangerous beliefs. Did Trinity College not appreciate the seriousness of this? Or investigate the background of their guest speaker? If not, let's remind them of some facts on Choudary.

He's the son of a market trader of Pakistani heritage, and was a medical student at Southampton University before he switched to

Unlikely. If you look at what's happened to Irish since the station started in 1996 – or more accurately, perhaps, since it was rebranded as TG4 in 1999 – you'll note that the language's popularity has increased more in those few years than it did in all the time since DeValera's first Irish policies back in the 1930s.

Government thinking on the language never quite escaped that era. The wrong approaches were taken to promote Irish; initially it was through forceful and coercive measures, and subsequently it was through a set of lazy fiscal incentives which treated Irish more as a commodity than a cultural gemstone. The Emerald of the Emerald Isle was being flogged, and someone needed to step in before it ended up lying on junk heap, along with Scot's Gaelic and Manx.

Enter TG4. Its task was not an easy one,

Bully, and I think you can sense where this is going, is a rather comic and thoroughly entertaining take on bullying in schools. In fact the main idea of the game is to tackle bullying, not to encourage it. Even so, rights groups and politicians are calling for the game to be axed on the charge that it's violent and will encourage misbehaviour and bullying.

This is by no means the first game to cause such a stir (think of Duke Nukem or Doom) and it certainly won't be the last. Obviously for the sake of being at least slightly politically correct, I have to say that any form of entertainment that involves disturbing amounts of violence, gore and such like should probably be kept away from kids.

But you see that's just it, this is how kids learn; this is how you and I (and everyone

Commerical Law. He was the leader of al-Muhajiroun, a group whose aim was for Britain to become an Islamic state. But it's not who he is, but what he says that should alarm us.

Here are a few examples: Choudary has described 9/11 as "retribution for the atrocities which have been committed against Muslims." He advocates violence against Westerners, describing the hijackers who ploughed jets into the World Trade Centre as "heroes". Choudary praises the 7/7 bombers, who according to him were "carrying out their Islamic responsibility and duty, so in that respect they were magnificent," a comment that could be considered incitement to commit murder. He believes that Muslim leaders in Britain should not meet Tony Blair, stating, "the time for talking, quite honestly is over. Now is the time for action."

as public opinion at the time viewed the language as a costly, pointless white elephant (thank you, Mr Myers), which served only to remind us all of harder times of yesteryear. Associations with the Christian Brothers, RTÉ's kitschy, diddly-aye shows and, of course, the Catholic Church, still loomed large over Irish, giving it a generally backward image which seemed all but impossible to shake off.

But from the start, the station had the right attitude. Dropping the ridiculous idea of keeping Irish and English several worlds apart at all times, which both government and media policies had so adamantly upheld in the past, was the first winning move. Subtitles? Yes please. Some English programming here and there? Well, OK so. At last, the general, English-speaking public had access to Irish media.

around us) grew up. It's called learning by doing. If you take away such experiences, if you just blanket ban anything that's slightly offensive, all we're left with is a hollow shell with no life, no joy and no creativity, taking away the very essence of being human.

As a perfectly normal upstanding citizen, I have certain responsibilities, such as voting and serving on a jury. I'm expected to handle the above with at least a basic degree of competence, so why must I be told what video games I can or can't play? Surely we as individuals have some grip over reality, and it's a fairly reasonable expectation that we won't pick up shotguns and start shooting people just because somehow we've been brainwashed after playing what is nothing more than a mere entertainment device.

This of course is only an example of a much

He was arrested by British police in March over protests against the controversial Danish cartoons of Mohammed, and recently in a demonstration against Pope Benedict, Choudary said that anyone who insulted Prophet Mohammed would be "subject to capital punishment." Anjem Choudary was deported from Lebanon back to Britain, and in the recent Trinity debate, he said the flag of Islam should be flown over Leinster House.

Considering Choudary's radical views, frequent incitements to hatred and his dangerous associates, it was immature and irresponsible for the Trinity Philosophical Society to invite him to speak. I'm not the only one that thinks this way. Fine Gael's Justice Spokesperson, Jim O'Keeffe stated it was "very immature of the Philosophical Society in Trinity to invite someone who wants to advocate violence." They may believe they're promoting free speech by inviting Choudary to speak but there is a fine line between freedom of expression and his brand of sectarianism. And this time, they crossed it.

Then, however, came the real success of TG4: the young people. The ones who weren't going to be lured into the language by tax incentives; the ones who were too young to remember Dev's ramming of the language down the national throat, or getting swung at by a Brother for mixing up verb endings. This was the first generation in a long time which could potentially ally itself with the language, and TG4 got them on their side. Irish finally had a momentum of its own.

That the station is going to go independent and break its ties with RTÉ next April is only testament to how far it has come. TG4 has made Irish sexy; a thought so alien ten years ago, back when most associated the language with old women and potatoes – and old potatoes. So lá breithe shona dhuit, TG4, agus go raibh míle maith agat.

bigger underlying problem touched on in my last column. I like to call it "babysitting". Nowadays it seems making noise is a lot more important than actually acting like a rational human being, so after feeling frustrated at the many idiots who would rather treat us all like four year olds, I've decided to make some noise of my own.

So listen up all you politically correct activists and pushy politicians: telling me what I do in my living room is none of your damn business. If you don't like something, don't join in. We don't tell you how to live your life, so stop messing with ours. You don't have sole preserve over responsibility so stop acting like you're somehow trying to help us. Because in reality all you're doing is annoying us.



# IN-DEPTH: THE IMMEDIATE

INTERVIEW

CONOR MCCAFFREY

**JUST TWO MONTHS AFTER THE RELEASE OF THEIR DEBUT ALBUM, IN TOWERS & CLOUDS, THE IMMEDIATE WILL HEADLINE THE UNFORTUNATELY NAMED 2FM 2MORO 2OUR, THEIR INVOLVEMENT SOLIDIFYING THEIR STATUS AS "ONES-TO-WATCH". CONOR MCCAFFREY CAUGHT UP WITH BARRA HEAVEY (KEYS, GUITAR, BASS, DRUMS, BACKING VOCALS ETC) AND UNLIKE MOST MUSIC JOURNALISTS WHO INTERVIEW THE BAND, TRIED NOT TO MENTION THEIR PENCHANT FOR INSTRUMENT SWAPPING OR THE SCHOOL CARETAKER WHO GOT THE LADS INTO GOOD MUSIC.**



**Y**ou made a joke statement on the 2FM website about being herded on to a bus and made to perform like monkeys for the kids of Ireland. But really you must be happy to be paraded as the new hope in Irish music.

Yeah it's really a phenomenal opportunity and we can't wait to get out and do a good solid exciting show. It's gonna be interesting – the most we've played before is maybe five or six nights but we haven't done anything like this. It's 11 dates in 10 days I think.

**Are you surprised the tickets have been booked up weeks before the tour?**

Really? I think it's good that the gigs are free but that tickets need to be booked. It'll be different from other free shows, like in colleges, where sometimes people are there to have a pint and then leave, or maybe to give you a bit of a chance. But you have to win them over, and you know after one track if you have them.

**How have crowds reacted since In Towers & Clouds was released?**

We recorded the album in August 2005 and after playing the songs live for a year we were in a different headspace. Then we released the album in August this year and the tempo has been up and up – more gigs, more press.

**The reviews have been pretty good across the board...**

Yeah, we're being championed in Ireland, which is great. After working on something for a while, we didn't know how it was going to be received so it was definitely a confidence boost.

**Will you be playing new material or songs from the album?**

A bit of both. At our last gig we played 10 of the 11 album tracks and they're still great fun to play but we're very much going forward. At the minute the recording process is quite slow, although we recorded some tracks last week and we've played three of them live already.

**Most of the crowd on this tour will know the songs. What about gigs across the water, like the April shows in Amsterdam?**

Yeah we did a few shows in Amsterdam. One was with the Flaming Lips who were on before us, so we got to catch some of their set. Our manager's girlfriend and some of our mates blagged their way backstage and got to dress up in the costumes – Santa's elves or something. We then played on the Saturday for Queen's Day where the population of Holland goes absolutely mental – everyone has to wear orange, you have techno banging out of one bar and rock bands

playing the next. Then we saw a man selling puppies, it was surreal.

**There's some interesting footage on a Dutch website with the band playing an acoustic set in a front trailer of a rickety bike cycling along a canal. Maybe it could be a special feature on a future DVD release?**

We were still kind of baked on the Sunday morning and these two girls, the interviewer and photographer of the 3 voor 12 website sourced this bike and we rode round a park for ages. If you look at our eyes you'll see they're glazed over. Actually you should check out that archive [www.pages.vpro.nl](http://www.pages.vpro.nl), there's some amazing footage.

**NME launched an Irish version of the magazine in Dublin recently. What effect will this have on aspiring bands?**

I'm not sure. I think bands are more empowered in that they don't need that magazine review to be heard. But there's a misconception that once a band publishes music, on the internet or whatever, that that somehow makes it relevant, or they've got 1000 friends on Myspace and that's success. And NME, well they're always after the Next Big Thing in those capital letters.

The RTE 2fm2moro2our begins on November 16, In Towers and Clouds is out now. Check out [www.rte.ie/2fm/2moro2our](http://www.rte.ie/2fm/2moro2our) for more details.



# NEW IRISH BANDS

## HUMANZI

**EVER HEARD OF A HUMANZI? URBAN MYTH HAS IT THAT A CHIMPANZEE WAS BRED WITH A HUMAN BEING, PRESUMABLY A VERY DRUNK ONE, AND VOILA, THE NEXT STEP IN THE EVOLUTION OF MAN, ALBEIT A FAIRLY FREAKY STEP.**

**H**umanzi is also the name of four young Dublin musicians whose debut album, *Tremors*, is looking to throw a spanner in the works of pop. The band is kicking and screaming its way through the media and these lads are not about to be placated by a banana or two. In short, they're going ape-shit.

Shaun Mulrooney, lead singer and guitarists, says a lot of the album is about "trying to make your situation better and not just taking things as they are. None of the songs are just made up lyrics; they all mean something." One listen to the album, or indeed a look at their website, reveals the band's strong thoughts on the culture of celebrity and the state of modern society. That's all well and good; anyone can say they care, but how proactive are they in reality?

"I think writing songs or even just talking about things, expressing your opinion on something is very important," says Mulrooney, who writes all the tracks. "So in that case I'm pro-active, but I mean, I'm not going down to Shannon to protest. I mean, I would do, but I'm not that pro-active."

While he does feel that "everybody should feel strongly anti-American foreign policy", it seems Mulrooney is well aware that you can't simply make people care. "You can't change people and make 'them' interested because people are so numb... you either have a natural want to change things or take an interest in what's going on, or else you don't. But if it does make people think, that's a great thing and something I'd be really proud of," he says of the album.

There's been a lot of hype around the band, with an equally strong backlash from some critics, but it seems that Humanzi remain untouched by all of this. When they recently featured on the cover of the first edition of the Irish NME, some music hacks were quick to point out that their album sales haven't quite matched the attention they've gotten.

Ask him where their album is in the charts, and Shaun's answer is refreshingly frank. "I honestly don't know where it is, it could be 44, it could be four, it could be 404," he laughs. However, he's more honest again when he says that yes, "of course" they want



INTERVIEW

SARAH DOYLE

people to buy their record.

"I don't want to make a million quid, I just want to make enough to keep doing this," he says. "It's the thing I love doing the most." That passion manifests itself in their message-laden songs. "Politics isn't a word I'd like to use," says Mulrooney. "I wouldn't want people to think I'm a preacher but I do feel strongly about certain subjects and it's just something that came out in the music."

At the moment, the lads are enjoying their status as a band to watch. "It's good, we're not quite mainstream and we're not quite unknown," admits Shaun. But that could all be about to change; Humanzi have just set off to America for some showcases and the launch gig of a new music magazine. "I think America could do us," he says.

But Mulrooney is also looking forward to more Irish gigs this month, including a Dublin

date in UCD on November 16. "Could you plug that in the article?" the singer asks. Done and done.

If *Tremors* doesn't get you first time round, it'll come back and bite you on the ass on the second play, and the third, and so on, until you're planning a mini-revolution of your own. The album never goes near themes like love and happiness, but Mulrooney says "a lot of it is looking inwards" and "if it can connect with people, that's a bonus."

So is a softer sound in Humanzi's future recording plans? Mulrooney explains that "the new stuff is starting to sound, well, not less 'frantic' but a bit more together" as the band grows. "The album's just basically the first songs I ever wrote, so it's hard to say what way it's gonna go."

*Tremors* is available in record stores now.



**I**t all started with a call from a friend of mine who imports classic cars from Italy. He said he had a nice Mercedes Coupe with a good body in Turin, and knew that was exactly the type I was looking to restore. I've always had a fascination with Mercs; maybe it was my father's fault for driving an old 200D when I was a little boy.

What I liked most about these cars was the spacious interior, and the almost undisturbed 360 degree view that the large windows give. This makes it very manageable to manoeuvre, even though it is a very large vehicle. As soon as I hung up the phone, I was making plans to go to Italy and check out the car.

There were actually two coupes to choose from when I arrived in Turin. One was just a shell, but with a perfect body, the other one had signs of an accident but was driving and complete. The accident had caused some panels to rust, but the main structure of the car was still very good. After much deliberation I chose the latter. Perhaps I wanted the adventure of driving it 1200 km through Germany to my hometown of Flensburg.

## **BEING A GERMAN, BENJAMIN LICHTENBERG HAS A PASSION FOR THE MERCEDES. BUT HE NEVER DREAMT HOW MUCH WORK IT WOULD TAKE TO RESTORE ONE.**

And an adventure is exactly what it was. After 300km on the road, the right front brake started to emit smoke. I had to stop seven times to fill up the tank, and after 14 hours I arrived home safely. The car wouldn't hit the road again for another four years. But at the time I didn't know that, and began reconstructing the car. First, I stripped it completely. Every part was dismantled to its last nut and bolt and was completely overhauled. Everything that needed to be

replaced was replaced and I even cleaned out the inside of the ventilation hoses. I was working as often as I could on the project, and it was all going smoothly.

When I reached the engine, my laid back, practically non-existent time schedule suddenly became a deadline, when my wife Aoife and I decided to move to Ireland. At that point I hadn't even started repairing the body. Fortunately I had all the panels I needed in stock, but only four months to weld it, paint it and put the car back together. It was an impossible task.

A friend of mine suggested bringing the car to another garage where he had recently had his own car repaired after an accident. This would give me enough time to restore the engine and assemble everything before the big move. I contacted the garage owner and told him what the car needed. I added that it should be done to a high standard. When I left the car with him, he promised the car was in safe hands.

BENJAMIN LICHTENBERG

# Pimp Meine Ride







Four weeks later I got a message that the car was ready to be picked up. I was really excited and couldn't wait to see the finished shell. But when I arrived at the garage I got a nasty surprise. I don't know how they did it, but every gap of the car was incorrectly aligned. The right door wouldn't close without touching the B-pillar, the hood wasn't lining up at all and the trunk lid touched the quarter panels on both sides. I was gutted. I had tried to make the car as perfect as possible, and this was a massive setback.

However, there was no changing what had been done and the deadline hadn't disappeared, so I decided to make the best of it, and started assembling the car. It was a great advantage to have every part organized and ready for assembly, otherwise I wouldn't have made it.

**MAIN PAGE:**

Mercedes-Benz Coupe fully restored

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:**

Original chassis, work on undercarriage.

Final car mounted on lift in garage

**RIGHT:**

Engine installation

It took a lot of work but eventually the car was ready to go by the time of the big move. When we arrived in Ireland the coupe had to trade its former fully equipped garage for a small one-car garage, kindly donated by my wife's grandmother Elsie. With a bit more work, it was finally ready to be registered and driven. In the past few months, the finishing touches have been carried out and you can see the results on the facing page. We've driven 250km in the car so far, but I'm already onto my next project.





# Timmy Hammers Home

**N**ow 51, it's twenty years since Timmy was the most popular children's entertainer in these islands with his Wacaday show. For years, he was massive. These days like so many other stars whose time has passed, he sells out student shows instead. "I'm quite good at it," he says fairly honestly, "so you do what you're good at, don't you really?"

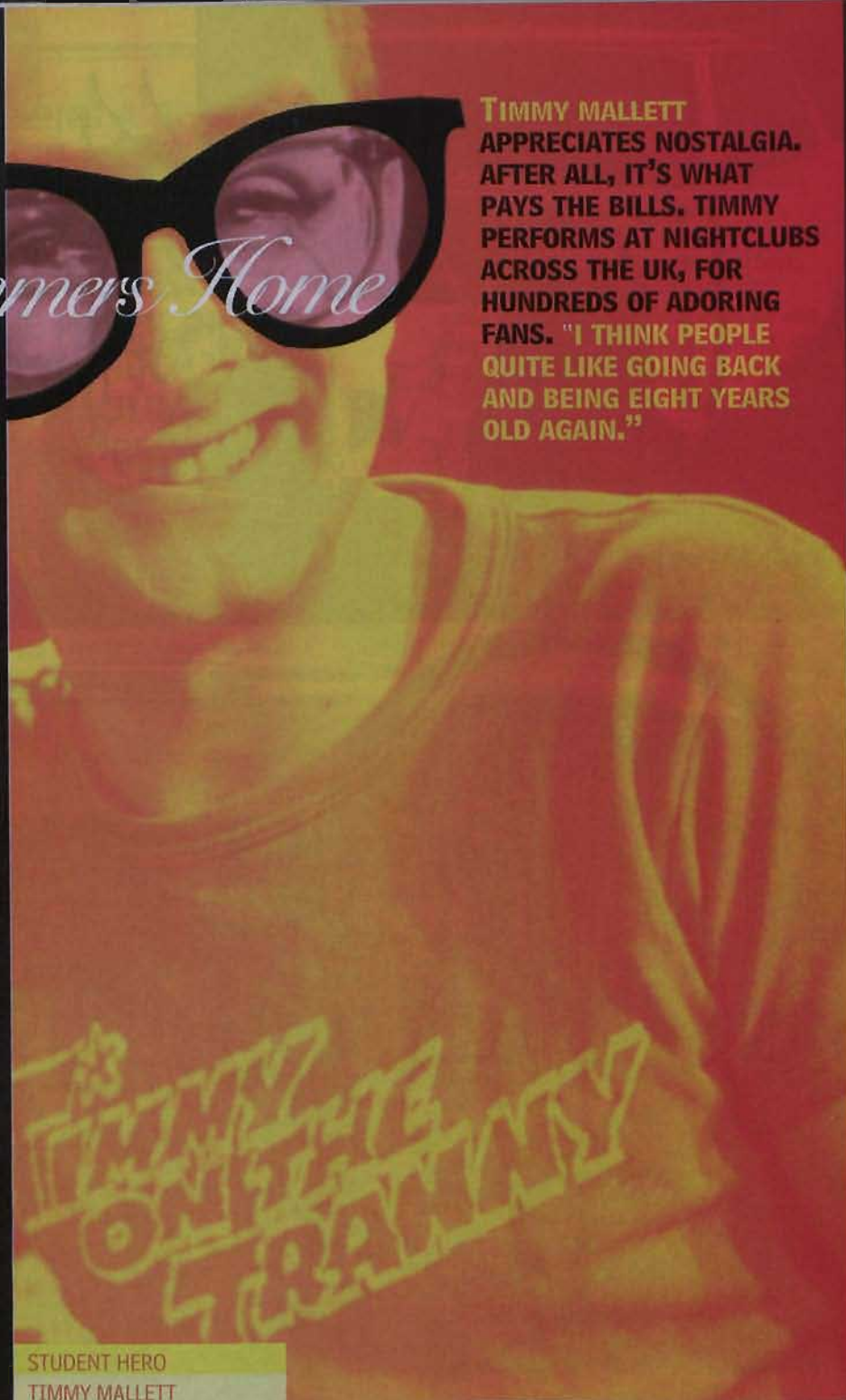
It's not surprising then that Mr Mallet, the son of a vicar, is so fascinated by the nature of nostalgia. "You do a kid's show and you're entertaining kids or whatever, and you think that's the end of it. But how highly we hold things from our childhood!" he says, "and things that were important to us in our childhood are important to us forever."

Comments like that remind you that Mallet's a bloody smart bloke, indeed he gave up studying for his Masters in order to pursue a blossoming media career. And even now he gets stopped all the time by people who remember his shows. Timmy gave an airhostess his signature on a flight back home recently, and thought that was it. But no, the pilot wanted a photo too. He told Timmy about a recent trip to the equator, which brought back memories to the pilot of seeing Timmy do the same in the 80s.

Wacaday started as part of TV-AM, the forerunner to GMTV and the UK's first experiment in live breakfast television, which gave Timmy a lot of scope to mess around. "Because it was new, we were able to make mistakes and learn on the way. And the audience and the broadcasters were very tolerant of that, I don't think you'd get that much time today." "There's that much more competition in terms of your viewing times, you switch on in the morning and you've got fifty channels. Back then it was just us and the cartoons on BBC."

Mallett was kicking the cartoons' arses until 1992, when suddenly TV-AM lost its license and he was left without a job. Work became harder to come by, TV slots dried up and up until there was nothing left. In 2006, Timmy plays hour-long shows at the likes Jumpin Jak's nightclub in Swansea to hundreds of clubbers presumably, hopefully, off their heads.

But he remains philosophical about fame. "Everything comes to an end, doesn't it? That's ok, I'm comfortable with that. It was of its time and now it's somebody else's turn."



STUDENT HERO  
TIMMY MALLET

**TIMMY MALLETT APPRECIATES NOSTALGIA. AFTER ALL, IT'S WHAT PAYS THE BILLS. TIMMY PERFORMS AT NIGHTCLUBS ACROSS THE UK, FOR HUNDREDS OF ADORING FANS. "I THINK PEOPLE QUITE LIKE GOING BACK AND BEING EIGHT YEARS OLD AGAIN."**

One of the things he took out of his time at the top, apart from a love of whacking people with an inflatable hammer, was travelling the world. There were trips to Kenya, South Africa and Australia, with plans to visit South America and the Carribean before the cancellation. Timmy even got to visit the Berlin Wall before it was knocked down, and of course whacked it with an inflatable mallet. No such luck for the Blarney Stone when he visited there, although it did have Timmy worried. "It's a weird thing, it's so bizarre to have to lean backwards. I enjoyed doing that, but I thought at the time 'ooh, it's a bit uncomfortable'," he says, before exploding into a laugh again.

"I enjoyed going over to Dingle in our horse drawn carriage. There's a lovely slowness to it. I remember asking for directions and

asking were we on the right road for Dingle. The man said, if you were going to Dingle, I wouldn't start here!" There's that laugh again.

He has an infectious lust for life, does our Timmy. Asked for a fact about himself that might surprise people, he reveals his passion for painting. Only the other day Rolf Harris was over in his house, and the two stayed up late talking about art. Little anecdotes like this make it easy to talk to Timmy.

But sadly he has to go, he's playing another gig tonight. There's just about time to talk about when he saved the life of a drowning woman, and how he was worried at the time about breaking his legs – because he had a show the next day. Luckily both the women, and Timmy's pantomime career, were safe.



**IF GOD WAS A FIFTEEN YEAR OLD BOY, THE WHOLE WORLD WOULD BE LIKE THE EAST COAST OF AUSTRALIA. GIRLS, BEER, SUNSHINE AND SURFING. PLUS THERE'S THE HINT OF DANGER PROMISED BY SUCH WILD AND FEROCIOUS CREATURES AS THE DINGO, THE GOLIATH SPIDER, AND OF COURSE, THE DUTCH BACKPACKER SHARING YOUR HOSTEL BUNK.**

More and more of us are travelling to Australia on yearlong visas. The jobs might be shit; a mixture of temping, fruit-picking and lugging stuff around building sights while some burly bloke from Woolamaroo calls you a poof; but a yearlong visa also gives you plenty of time for travelling.

But as well as the famous locations like Uluru, there are equally enjoyable but lesser-known spots in Oz, places you probably won't find about til you get there. The east coast is one of these hidden gems, and here – from north to south, are the must-sees.

#### Cairns

Cairns in summer is hotter than the surface of the sun. You will get burnt, and it will hurt. On the plus side is the fantastic lagoon: busy but never overcrowded on the hottest days, with lots of nearby sunbathing spots, it must be where the Cairns Tourist Board invested all their cash. It's easy to get used to lounging around by day and stocking up on cheap drinks at night. But great things lie ahead further down the coast, so don't hesitate to get a move on.

#### Airlie Beach

Airlie Beach is a dead, dead town. It's got another fantastic lagoon, and more beautiful sunkissed locals, but really it's just a few hostels, thousands of tourists and a marina. But that marina is the start-off point for trips to the Whitsunday Islands, so Airlie serves its purpose.

#### Whitsunday Islands

Beautiful. Just beautiful. If you can afford it, go for three days. The beaches are among the best in the world, and the craic you'll have sailing between them can't be beat.

#### Fraser Island

You'll stay in Herbie Beach (just a long road and a beach), you'll travel over on a cramped ferry, you'll owe a lot of money if anything happens to your jeep – but Fraser Island is worth it all. The beauty of the surroundings and the fun of driving around like The A-Team will stick in your memories for a long time.

#### Brisbane

As you edge closer to Sydney, it's not just the landscape that changes. The people do too. Talk of flamin' galahs is long gone by the time you reach Brisbane, home to teeming hordes of emo kids, and a million other imported American cultural traits. It's smaller, less cool and less striking than the capital, and by now the pull of the Opera House is probably irresistible, meaning you won't spend much more than a few days in Brissie. Having said that, the hostel bars are as rowdy as they are up the coast, so it is possible to end your trip down the coast on a high. Then get back on the bus for another cramped long haul trip down the coast, all the way to Bondi.

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# Reviews

☆☆☆☆☆ TERRIBLE  
 ★☆☆☆☆ POOR  
 ★★☆☆☆ AVERAGE

★★★★☆ GOOD  
 ★★★★★ EXCELLENT  
 ★★★★★ UNMISSABLE

BECK



## The Information Beck

By: Niall Farrell

★★★★★☆☆

With his seventh album, Beck hasn't limited his originality to the music. This album comes with a blank front and stickers allowing you to design your own cover. If you thought it was just a cheap marketing trick, you'd be wrong, because *The Information* is Beck defined. It's inventive, eclectic, original and funky.

None of the songs here would sound out of place on any of Beck's previous albums. That's not to say he's running low on ideas but rather that he continues to push boundaries and genres. That said, focus can be lost amidst all the genre-hopping and it's nowhere near as complete an album as *Guero*. But the standout tracks are as good as anything he's done.

From the heartfelt *Think I'm In Love to Cell Phone's Dead*, a washboard of sounds and styles sounding like several songs cut and pasted together, Beck's talent shines through. Throw in the country metal of *Nausea* and the fantastic *We Dance Alone*, and the case for Beck being somewhat of a genius grows stronger.

This album is sure to rank in most people's end of year polls and rightly so. Even when he doesn't get it completely right Beck still ranks above the majority of everything else out there.

## Transcendental To-Mera

By: Lisa Hughes

★★★☆☆☆☆

To-Mera are a hard-rock band that have been getting acclaim almost since the moment they started. Magazines like *Kerrang* are falling over themselves to heap praise on debut release *Transcendental*, but the fact is, the album just doesn't live up to the hype.

It's always promising to see a female headed metal band, but To-Mera are overly experimental, aiming to mesh the likes of Meshuggah and Opeth with highly operatic vocal stylings. But the result is a disjointed LP.

Tracks like the opening *Traces* reveal a skill for acoustic musings that run throughout the album and which, along with the heartfelt lyrics, show the musical capabilities of To-Mera. At its best the band produces Lacuna Coil style femme-metal. But at its worst their music comes across as a muddled, directionless experiment, as the stop-start nature of *Dreadful Angel* shows.

The band are definitely capable of much more than this, and I'm sure *Transcendental* will be a big hit with those who favour experimentation and sweeping choruses. But right now, To-Mera come across as a band who haven't settled on their identity.



## Neosupervital Neosupervital

By: Niall Farrell

★★★★★☆☆

Tim O'Donovan is better known to most as the live drummer for Bell X1, but Neosupervital is his synth-pop loving alter ego. This is his debut album and it's a nostalgic trip through the 80s which references everything from *The Human League* to *Pet Shop Boys* and *Prince*. With lots of synth and electronic drum sounds mixed with witty and infectious vocals, Neosupervital's tongue-in-check attitude is a breath of fresh air amongst the usual guitar based indie drivel of the moment.

Having caught Neosupervital live, where he's joined on stage by Jesse LoveAction on Bass, Miss K on synth and Dancin Vin doing what his name implies, I was excited about hearing the album, and it didn't disappoint.

Stand-out tracks include the live favourite *Rachael*, *Nothing and Jazz Fascist*, a song that takes a swipe at music snobs. On *Alternative Day*, he even makes fun of himself: "it doesn't really matter what I say, people think that I'm cool anyway, they don't seem to notice that I'm such a fool". This is far from a novelty act but rather an artist embracing a particular sound with genuine respect and with his own particular slant. The album's sound is a little limited but it's still an enjoyable and fun experience.



## A Good Year

By: Katie Teehan

★★★☆☆☆☆

Meet Max Skinner (Russell Crowe), a successful yet ruthless London stockbroker, who bosses people around and stabs them in the back. Then his uncle dies and leaves him a crumbling chateau and vineyard in France, and Max must go to spend some time there. He intends to sell the place off as soon as he can, but things don't work out that way.

When he becomes seduced by the place and the beautiful Fanny Chenal (Marion Cottillard), he is faced with a choice: his money or his life. But despite this fairly meaty subject matter, Crowe doesn't convince in the part which reunites him with *Gladiator* director Ridley Scott. The New Zealander brings a bumbling brand of obnoxiousness to the role which, combined with his slightly too plummy English accent, is just plain irritating.

The film is going to disappoint fans of romantic comedies too. For one, it's not all that funny. It's very slow in parts and you will rarely see such a sickeningly neat conclusion to a film.

It is a stunningly shot movie though. The dreamlike quality of the hazy, sun-warmed French countryside starkly contrasts against the grey rain and steel of the London skyline. If nothing else, this film will make you want to book a trip to Provence.





## The Prestige

By: Katie Teehan



Following a tragic accident during a magic show, fellow stage magicians Alfred Borden (Christian Bale) and Rupert Angier (Hugh Jackman) become bitter rivals. They are both driven by hatred of each other and a desire to be the best. Each time one man comes up with a new trick, the other turns up to sabotage it. When Borden unveils the most amazing trick ever seen, *The Transported Man*, Angier becomes obsessed with discovering the secret behind it.

*The Prestige* is a beautifully atmospheric, gripping drama. Bale and Jackman are perfectly cast as the rivals engaged in a brutal battle against each other. Scarlett Johansson and Michael Caine shine in supporting roles, while David Bowie even makes an unexpected appearance as a physicist attempting to build the ultimate magic machine.

Gruesome deaths, bloody attacks and a fascinating, twisting, turning plot keep you riveted throughout. However its complexities demand your full attention, so skip it if you've got a hangover.

Like any good magic trick, *The Prestige* deftly uses sleight of hand to distract the viewer from the truth, and then pulls off a dazzling finale with flair and finesse.



## Borat

By: Neil Brennan

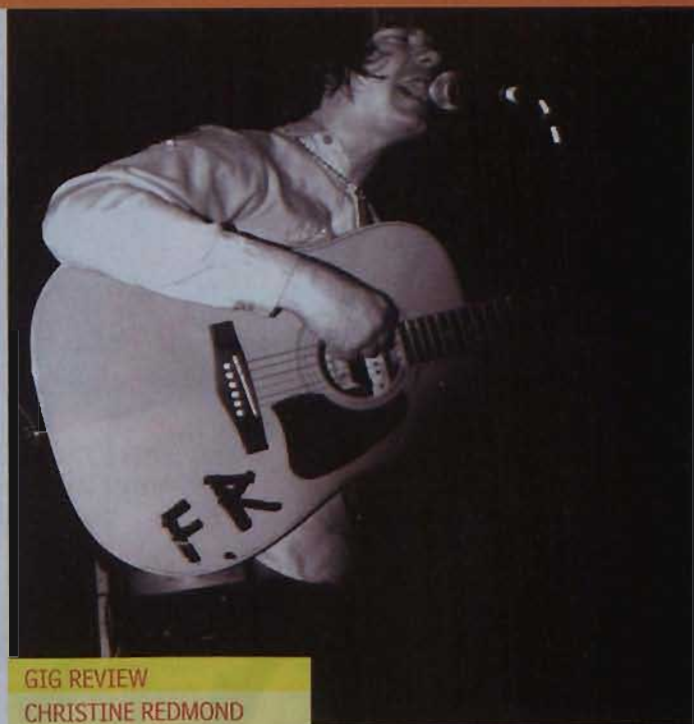


Sitting in a suburban multiplex crammed full of couples and teenagers, it was hard not to wonder how many of the audience actually got Borat. Back when the reporter was the salad dressing in *Da Ali G Show* sandwich, most viewers thought he wasn't up to scratch, especially not when compared to the *Staines wideboy*.

But Baron Cohen continued with the character, found out what worked and what didn't, and exploited it mercilessly on TV by bringing the character to the US. And he's done it again for the new movie, a marked improvement on *Ali G's* transfer to the big screen.

The movie traces Borat's journey across America, from arrival in New York to dramatic conclusion in Los Angeles, but it's really a movie about people. We meet the most extreme and bizarre that America has to offer, but the shocking thing is how normal they all think they are. At least over here the weirdoes know they're weird.

Behind all the exaggerated anti-Semitism and cheap laughs about Kazakhstan, there's a real satirical point being made in this movie. Of course the movie's so funny it'll take you a while to work what that point was; even now all I can think of is Borat and his producer wrestling naked.



GIG REVIEW  
CHRISTINE REDMOND

## Fionn Regan



Fionn Regan wears a mysterious smile when he comes onstage. Previous performances have exhibited traces of shyness and nervousness, but tonight he seems to have grown out of this. He stands before the small audience smiling and laughing regularly, with an air of modest confidence. Fionn's already attracting a fairly notable contingent of female fans, but bats away their screams of 'I love you Fionn!' with a line that indicates his bashfulness hasn't totally gone away. 'It's always great when your mother turns up,' he answers back.

In between songs too Fionn continued to engage with the audience, with stories of entering his neighbour's house through a dog flap somehow working well with his hypnotic ballads. His lyrics are dark, dreamy, intelligent and haunting, and consume the audience. Each song has a poetic beauty, and Regan's eyes-closed, foot-stomping performance style just adds to that atmosphere. Critics have been clambering to compare Fionn with the likes of Bob Dylan and Nick Drake, but like the best singer-songwriters, he's completely unique.





photo courtesy of leinsterrugby.ie

## LEINSTER HUNGRY FOR SUCCESS

**LEINSTER GO INTO THE AUTUMN INTERNATIONALS WITH THE KNOCKOUT STAGES OF THE HEINEKEN CUP FIRMLY WITHIN THEIR REACH. DESPITE DEFEAT AGAINST EDINBURGH, MICHAEL CHEIKA'S SIDE LOOK SET TO ADVANCE TO THE LATTER STAGES WITHOUT MUCH DIFFICULTY.**

SPORTS  
CILLIAN O'CONCHUIR

Leinster were fortunate not to have been punished for their defensive weaknesses in the rest of their opening games though, and Cheika knows these frailties could have a serious impact on their chances of glory.

"Defence is something we are always working on," says Cheika, "we need to be better at shaving our stats." In 22 Celtic League (now Magners League) matches last year, Leinster scored 545 points, but conceded a staggering 427 points.

"We were second in the Celtic League last year, and we took in the second highest amount of points a game. The same in the Heineken Cup and this year we're taking some too. It's not through a lack of desire. We just have to get better at what we are doing and we will keep working on it."

Not content with having one of the best back lines in the competition, Cheika also has an abundance of talented youth at his disposal. Cillian Willis, 21, Luke Fitzgerald, 19, and Rob Kearney, 20, are testament to the talent coming through at Leinster, with Willis recently stepping onto the Heineken Cup stage. He deputised for the injured Chris Whitaker in the opening Pool 2 clash with Gloucester and staked his claim to the number nine shirt. He showed experience beyond his years and could be a prominent feature in Leinster's team.

"I know how tough he is," said Brian O' Driscoll of Willis, his cousin. "Myself and his two brothers did a bit of toughening up back in the day. I think that's standing to him now, so I'm taking some of the plaudits for that. He's got a rocket of a pass and he will get better and better. He needs games at this level to improve, but he deserves every plaudit that he gets."

Leinster out-half Felipe Contepomi adds guile to a very offensive back line. The Argentine admits the lack of importance placed on the Magners League might hamper Leinster's cause. "Europe is not about turning up on the day with good players," says Contepomi, last year's top scorer in the Heineken Cup.

"You are playing against teams that are playing week in week out in a very high pressure environment like the Guinness Premiership or France. If you don't create that environment for yourself, like with the Celtic League, it's very difficult that you will turn up one day and say I want to beat Leicester, Toulouse or Stade Francaise".

At present Heineken Cup places are allocated to the top three Irish teams in the Magners League. As opposed to the English Guinness Premiership and the French Top 14, the league does not offer the same amount of challenging games. It lacks a competitive edge as teams are in the comfort zone in relation to qualifying for Europe's premier club competition.

Contepomi is adamant that this needs to change. "The qualification for Europe has to come from the Celtic League. That won't make many teams joke about it. If you say the first six Celtic League places are for the Heineken Cup, they will take it seriously week in week out."

For now the focus will be on Twickenham, the venue of next year's Heineken Cup final. There is no doubt Leinster have the ability to get there but their reliance on their backs and the indiscipline often showed could prove their undoing. For now at least the humiliating defeat at the hands of Munster in last year's semi-final is overcome.

### Leinster Fixtures

Dec 2: Magners League Round 10  
Vs Ulster, Ravenhill

Dec 9: Heineken Cup Round 3  
Vs Agen, Lansdowne Road

Dec 16: Heineken Cup Round 4  
Vs Agen, Stade Armandie

Dec 27: Magners League Round 11  
Vs Munster, Thomond Park

All fixtures subject to change





## Ski Trip

SPORTS NEWS

TERI O'BOYLE

This year's annual ski trip organised by the DIT Ski Club departs on the January 27 for seven fun-filled days and nights. It's their third year of running the trip, and it just seems to be getting bigger and better each year.

On its maiden voyage, the club brought 80 students over to Tignes, France. Historically seen as an elitist sport, they were surprised to see how accessible and how cheap a trip can be, as detailed by SU President Bob Coggins in last month's Compact. On their second journey they went to Val Thorens, France and this year the destination is Les Arcs. Eighty

students will make up the departing party, costing 769 euro for all transfers, accommodation, flights, rental and ski passes.

With a membership base of just over 300 students from all the DIT sites, it's a reflection of how popular the sport has become in Ireland. Throughout the year the club have been running beginners lessons in Kiltarnan, Irelands answer to Le Piste without the snow.

Last month's Compact mistakenly stated that the DIT trip was being run in conjunction with the UCD trip. In fact the DIT group are travelling on their own, with the trip open to members and non-members alike. For further information contact the sports office in Aungier Street.

There are now surf schools popping up in every coastal town the length and breadth of the country, offering weekend bonding trips for businesses along with weekly classes. There is a huge amount of money being made from the gigantic waves along with the allure of the amazing stretch of coastal cliffs and scenic surroundings.

The temperature doesn't serve well in the winter months with the waters dipping very close towards freezing point. However, expect to see international surf tournaments making taking place on the west coast in the not so distant future.

## Surfers not board on west coast

"Surf's up," is a phrase that you wouldn't expect to hear too much in Ireland, a country renowned for its love of Gaelic games, rugby, soccer and golf. But over the last decade or so the phrase has become more common, not only on the west coast of Ireland but throughout the country.

Every year the number of surfboards shipped off the carousel at Shannon Airport increases dramatically. It used to be an unimaginable sight, one that left the folk working at the airport wondering what the boards were for.

As it turns out, one of the world's most perfect waves was recently discovered off the west coast of Ireland and it now attracts some of the world's top surfers. Christened Aileen, it is one of the world's true monster waves, riding in at between 20-30 feet high. Only a select number of people have had the nerve to ride it, including two Irish daredevils.



The newly formed DIT Surf Club have recently returned from a trip to Lahinch and are hoping to organise more trips throughout the year. Look out for details on the college notice boards or contact [ditsurfclub@gmail.com](mailto:ditsurfclub@gmail.com).

## Player Profile:

### Eoin Somerville



This year Eoin has been a member of the St Vincent's Senior Football team that reached the Dublin Championship final, playing against UCD. He has played at underage level for Dublin and

is hoping to gain a much deserved place on this years Dublin U21 panel. He's in his second year at college, based over in Bolton Street, he has played with the fresher's team and the senior team.

**Name:** Eoin Somerville

**Date of Birth:** 18/12/1987

**Best memory of playing football/hurling:** Captaining the senior football team in sixth year in Ard Scoil Ris.

**Favourite match ever played:** U16 Dublin Hurling Championship final against St. Davids in O'Tooles. 8 points down at half time won by a point.

**Toughest opponent:** Micheal Boyle

**Best player you've ever seen:** Gerry Grehan

**Most annoying team mate:** Gerry Grehan - it's a love/hate relationship

**Greatest inspiration:** Ger Regan

**If I had three wishes, I would wish for:** Get a starting place on Dublin 21s, decent job with good money and settle down with one of the birds from Girls Aloud - just not the red head.

**Three people you would invite for dinner:** Roy Keane, John O' Leary and Jenna Jameson.

**What would you spend your last 20 euro on:** Football gear for my mother to wash.

**Opening Croke Park up to other sports, in favour or not:** Not in favour

**Would you like to see inter county players get paid:** Yeah why not? They deserve it with all the training they do



## Quest to name DIT's new theatre

**F**ancy the chance to name a new DIT landmark and win yourself €200? The DIT Societies Office in conjunction with the Drama Society are looking to name their new 37-seat multi purpose theatre situated in DIT Aungier Street.

The theatre will be home to Drama Soc and other DIT societies until the big move to Grangegorman. It will serve as an invaluable resource for students and audiences alike, and will be suitable for screenings, presentations, plays and guest speakers, making it an essential part of the cultural life of DIT. The central role of the theatre will

be to provide open access to amateur actors and amateur groups and giving them the opportunity to get hands-on experience in a professional environment. It will serve as an independent environment bringing together students from all of the sites of DIT, from all courses and backgrounds.

This new and exciting development has been funded by the DIT Development Fund with the support of the DIT Cultural and Social Committee, DITSU and the DIT Student Sports, Recreation & Support Committee. We are looking for you to name the theatre, with the winning entrant receiving €200. Please email your suggested name and explanation to [brian.whitney@dit.ie](mailto:brian.whitney@dit.ie) by noon on Friday, November 17.

Audiences will be offered an array of performances, the first of which will be directed and performed by the Overall DIT



SOCIETY FACTFILE

## Circus Arts & Juggling

Brian O'Connell is the chair of the Circus Arts and Juggling Society

**Before you came to DIT had you done any juggling?**

I started juggling about a year before I came to DIT. I always had a fascination with it, ever since I was young. I had tried multiple times to learn by myself, failing every time. Then one of my friends just kind of showed me how to do it, after about a week I could do it and I was hooked.

**How good were you when you joined the society?**

I was OK, I still had a lot to learn though. I've come a long way though.

**How good are you now?**

Well being as modest as I am...I'm alright, not one of the best jugglers. But as far as unicycling is concerned I'd be up in the top 5 in the country.

**How many members have you got?**

Around 130, and people keep coming up asking to join.

**What activities does the society do?**

Twice a week we have a session in a hall where we do juggling for about two hours, and sometimes get other jugglers to come in from outside the college to give us a workshop. We're one of the most active juggling societies in Ireland.

**Can beginners come along?**

Yeah, about 20% of our members know how to juggle before they join and want to improve their skills, and the rest just want to

learn how to juggle.

**How hard is it to learn to juggle?**

Most people can learn within two or three hours. There's an enormous amount of tricks you can do. Jumping over people lying down on the ground I'd say. I've never hurt anyone though.

**What other activities does the society do?**

All different circus arts: unicycling, Diabolo-ing, staff-twirling, yoyo, contact juggling, stilt walking.

**Any big events coming up?**

There's a few conventions: in November we're bringing all the members down to Tralee, in February there's a convention in Belfast, and then in March we're hosting a convention.

**And what does that involve?**

It's a weekend-long event, starting on Friday, with a fire show on in Temple Bar and a public show on Saturday and a sort of renegade show after that.

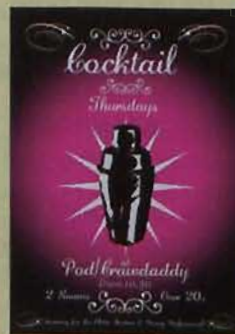
**What's a renegade show? It sounds dangerous.**

It's not dangerous. More odd. It's kind of an open stage where you can do anything strange, weird or just really funny. For example last year in Belfast some guy stuck a €2 coin up his nose.

**So it's basically an open invitation?**

Yeah, and if people like you you get a big round of applause and a shot of tequila.

Anyone interested in joining the society should contact Brian at 0879212774.



### Red Soc Club Nights

Red Soc members can avail of discounts to two of Dublin's hottest student nights launching this month. Cocktail, at the Pod and Crawdaddy, is a Thursday night designed with the more mature student and young professional in mind. It's for the 3rd or 4th year students who still want to go out, but don't necessarily want to mingle with their fresher siblings.

Meanwhile the new Tripod venue will see the launch of Heat, a new student night for Wednesdays. Two top Dublin DJs will offer a mix of sounds, including DIT's own Tim Ryan. For more info, contact [redsociety@gmail.com](mailto:redsociety@gmail.com).

### Biosoc Rectuiting

A new society for students of Biomedical Science and Biological Sciences and anyone who wants a bit of fun! Anyone who wants to join should contact Anna ([aideanna@gmail.com](mailto:aideanna@gmail.com)) or Lorraine ([lorrainemcgovern@gmail.com](mailto:lorrainemcgovern@gmail.com)) or just ask any second year Biomedical Science students where to find us! BioSoc - bringing the fun into Biomedical Science!

What's your society up to?  
Let us know at

[compact@ditsu.ie](mailto:compact@ditsu.ie)



Drama Society from December 4-8 at 7pm each night. The Hothouse by Harold Pinter shows the sinister side of institutional life. The play is set in a dubious institution; referred to throughout the play as both a 'rest home' and a 'sanitorium', wherein the residents (or 'patients') are referred to by number, rather than by name.

The institution's bombastic leader, Roote, has his professionalism and even his sanity constantly undermined by his two lackey underlings, the quiet and efficient Gibbs and the sleazy and alcoholic Lush. Roote's calculating and shrewd mistress, Miss Cutts, adds to the mayhem. After the supposed murder of one patient and the rape and resulting pregnancy of another, Roote, Gibbs and Lush set out to find the culprit, only to discover a disturbing secret.

SOCIETY Q & A

TERI O' BOYLE

## Reject Muzakel Soc.



Number of Members: 207

### Aim of Society:

A society where your lack of musical ability, tone-deaf singing and two left feet are nurtured. While appreciating our members' talentlessness we hope to unleash some hidden talents they never knew they had! We aspire to provide a wide, eclectic range of events of our members and the student body in order to create a memorable college experience.

### Society Activities:

Last year of course we had our pole dancing and naked calendar...highly scandalous! This year some of the things planned include: weekly meetings, a Useless Information Quiz, pole-dancing, mud-wrestling, murder mystery, bongo lessons, Burlesque night, salsa dancing, SVP Charity day, karaoke competition, break a Guinness World Record...and whatever else we can get away with.

### Biggest Accomplishment:

Winning DIT's Best New Society Award and Mountjoy's Best Society 2006!

### Biggest Disaster:

Finding out we had hired a blind belly dancing teacher! When we went to meet her in

## Mountaineering Club beats the Burren

DIT CLUBS

Rebecca Schap

Even though I didn't know exactly what to expect, I was pumped for the Mountaineering Club's trip to The Burren!

All I knew was that about 50 awesome people were heading to the west of Ireland for a weekend of climbing. Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine having such a great weekend. As a group, we had a blast hanging out in the different houses where we stayed. The weather was...well, this is Ireland!

Which means it rained and it rained and it rained, but like a good friend told me, 'If you're ever going to get anything done, you just have to do it in the rain!'

So there we were, bundled up in fleece and rain gear having a great time at the crag. We had the opportunity for a little caving as well. There's something kind of amusing about all of us splashing through the muddy water in the cave. We came out looking like a bunch of muddy little kids! So in short...great climbing, great caving, great craic. Who could ask for more?

## Event Guide

November 17<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> – Pink Training

November 23<sup>rd</sup> – Paintball KST Trip to Crossfire

November 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> - InterLan, DIT NetSoc's Intersociety Lan Event, Ard Scoil Ris, Marino

November 22<sup>nd</sup> – Red Neck Rodeo, Tripod

November 23<sup>rd</sup> – DIT Club Carnival, Bojangles Nightclub, Russell Court Hotel

November 28<sup>th</sup> - DIT Awear Fashion Show, Vicar Street

### Weekly Events

Arts and Crafts – weekly workshops in Aungier Street room 2018, 6-7pm every Wednesday

Break-dancing - Tuesday evenings in Linen Hall, opposite Bolton Street

Dance – dance classes in the Dublin Dance Academy every Tuesday 6-7pm

Dance MJSQ – Monday's in Mountjoy Square, 6.15-8pm in Drama Room on the third floor

DJ @ Shindig – the Pod, Harcourt Street from 11pm

Poker 8st – every Tuesday 5.30pm registration in the scholars canteen

Poker Ast /Kst – every Wednesday, rotating from each campus each week

Christian Union – every Thursday, Aungier Street at

Reject Muzakel – Pole Dancing/Weird Wednesday, contact rejectmuzakel@yahoo.co.uk

Trad Soc – regular sessions in Kings Inn, Bolton Street, contact tradsoc@socs.dit.ie

Jugglers – Monday and Wednesday, Mondays in Belvedere college 5 - 7pm. Wednesdays in Linnen hall sports hall 7 - 9.30pm

LGBT – rotating around the sites every week, contact lgbl@dit.ie

ASA - Committee meetings, every Tuesday 1.30 - 2, in the crit pit

Capoeira – every Friday 1 pm in the gym in Kevin Street

the foyer of Mountjoy Sq we already knew she was mad from the many many phone conversations, but it was only when she said, "hand me my stick there," that we realised what we had done. As she couldn't see us dancing she had to feel our bellies to make sure we were doing it right. However, she turned out to be a fantastic teacher and we had great craic. One of our more memorable nights! Another disaster was all the girls finding out the lads were better at pole dancing...strange that!

If money was no object, what event would your society hold:

Have endless baths of champagne, rent out Disneyland Florida for the year, pole dance while eating caviar, get our own Reject hummer limo with a jacuzzi, buy a small island in Tahiti and make the locals worship the Rejects like gods.

If you could get three famous people to join your society, who they would they be?:

John Cleese, the dancing priest out of Father Ted and Bill Bailey...because they're all sooo sexy.

Favourite other society and why:

We couldn't pick one so here are our joint favourites: LGBT and Red Soc. LGBT for all the cocktails, pole dancing and laughs and Red Soc for their upcoming crazy rodeo and our joint square dancing fiasco. These socs know how to enjoy themselves!

Best thing about being a member of a society:

You never know what weird wacky zany event we're going to hold next, no two weeks are the same, no other society is like us. You have an opportunity to be idiotic, ridiculous and absurd and have the time of your life.





# HALLOWEEN BALL

∞ BREAK FOR THE BORDER ∞







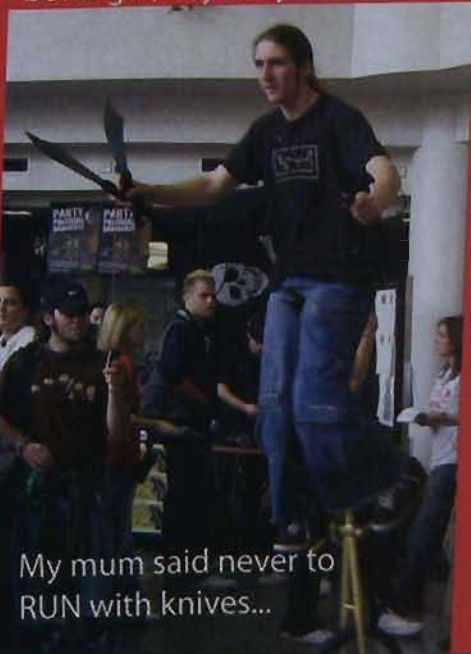
"Who'll give me 45, 45 for the wannabe bond girl, anybody?"



"Cake, I see CAKE!"



Jen's addiction to spaghetti was beginning to affect her speech



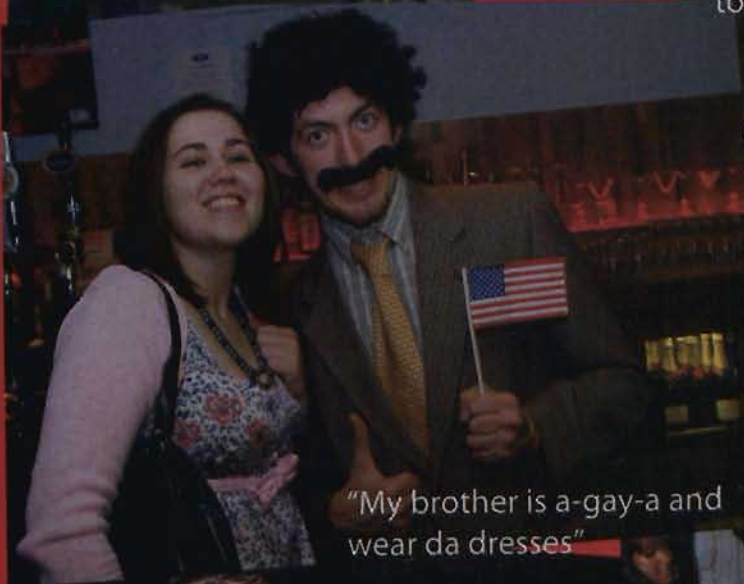
My mum said never to RUN with knives...

# MOVIE STAR BALL!



Vice President for Mass Destruction

Sharon was listening to too much Johnny Cash



"My brother is a-gay-a and wear da dresses"



The minature George Micheal loved the smell of freshly cured ham



Birdie's 'Arse falling off' complex was making her paraniod



The Siamese pirates struggled to maintain a decent sex life with one pointed limb between them



# Xposed

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of Irish students

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