

Edition 36, May 2017

Missing persons

This month marks the 10th anniversary of the disappearance of Madeleine McCann. Three-year-old Madeleine went missing from her family's holiday apartment in the south coast holiday area of Portugal on May 3rd 2007. Her parents were having dinner with friends at the time, just 50 metres away. Her disappearance sparked the biggest and most well-known missing person case in history.



Ten years on, despite following more than 500 lines of inquiry, police in Portugal and Britain appear to be no closer to finding out what really happened to Madeleine on that night.

Here in Ireland as many as 8000 people are reported missing every year. Thankfully most of these are found within a short period. However, on average 25 people remain missing in Ireland every year. There have been many well known cases here, such as those of Dublin schoolboy Philip Cairns and six-year-old Donegal girl Mary Boyle. Thirteen-year-old Philip vanished in 1986 while returning to school from his home after lunch. Mary disappeared in 1977 while walking close to her grandparents' home in the countryside in Donegal. Both children have never been found.

Philip Cairns



Mary Boyle



In 1982, the Garda set up The Missing Persons Bureau. The Bureau assists in the

investigation of all missing person cases in Ireland. They also work with international police forces and keep up to date records on all missing person cases.

For the families of these missing people, there are no answers only many questions and the agony of endless searching and waiting. However, they never give up hope of seeing their loved ones again.

Tuam Mother and Baby Home

In March this year one of the greatest scandals ever in this country came to light. The bodies of several hundred babies and small children were found buried near a septic tank on the grounds of the old Mother and Baby Home in Tuam in Galway. There had been nothing to show that it was a mass grave. Research carried out by local Tuam woman, Catherine Corless, discovered that a total of 796 babies and small children died in the Tuam Home over the years. She was unable to find graves for these babies and therefore put pressure on the Government to investigate.

Tuam Mother and Baby Home



The Home for unmarried pregnant women, was run by the Bon Secours order of nuns from 1925 to 1961. This was a time in

Ireland when an unmarried woman becoming pregnant was seen as the greatest shame to befall a woman and her family.

Some women were put into these Homes, against their will, by their families, because of fear of the Catholic Church or for other reasons. However, many women were sent to these Homes by the Catholic Church and the state authorities, often without the families knowing or agreeing. There were several of these Homes around Ireland. Most were run by the Catholic Church. Some, known as the Magdalene Laundries, required the women to work long hours in the laundry. Some women spent their entire lives in these Homes.

Not all women in the Magdalene Laundries were mothers. Those who were mothers had their babies taken from them. Many of the children were then given or sold into fostering or adoption, some to couples in America. Many stayed in the care of the institutions and attended schools known at the time as Industrial schools. Many babies and children died in the Homes. The last of these Homes only closed their doors in the 1990's.

Silent letters: When a letter is silent you can't hear it in the word

Silent l

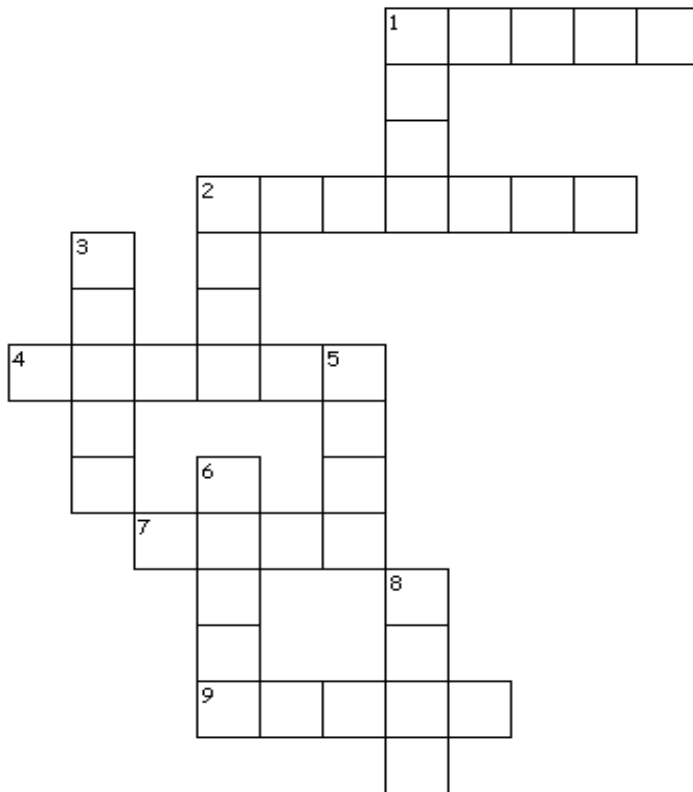
walk talk chalk folk yolk
half calf
would could should
calm palm salmon

Silent b

numb crumb thumb plumber
comb bomb womb
lamb limb climb
doubt debt

Tip: Take 5 words each day and try to practise them using: **Look, Say, Cover, Write and Check.**

The answers to the clues are all silent l and b words



Across

1. To go up a hill (5)
2. A person who will fix your broken tap (7)
4. Beef or _____ a popular dinner choice (6)
7. An explosion (4)
9. To hitch a lift (5)

Down

1. Try to stay _____ in a crisis. (4)
2. Middle part of your hand (4)
3. White stuff used to write on a blackboard (5)
5. To have no feeling (4)
6. Not to believe (5)
8. A woman carries a baby here before it is born (4)

Answers a) 75 b) 75 c) 20 d) 15 e) 27 f) 18 g) 250 h) 65

From the list, pick a word that has the same meaning as these:

- Yellow part of the egg _____
- Young cow _____
- Fifty percent _____
- Chat _____
- People _____
- No feeling _____
- Young sheep _____
- Go up a ladder. _____
- Arm or leg _____
- Stroll _____
- Inside of your hand _____

Maths

To get a **fraction** of a number you always divide by the bottom number and multiply by the top number

Example: to get $\frac{3}{5}$ of 75
 $75 \div 5 = 15$ then $15 \times 3 = 45$

Find the answers to these:

- a. $\frac{3}{4}$ of 100 =
- b. $\frac{5}{6}$ of 90 =
- c. $\frac{2}{3}$ of 30 =
- d. $\frac{3}{5}$ of 25 =
- e. $\frac{3}{4}$ of 36 =
- f. $\frac{3}{8}$ of 48 =
- g. $\frac{1}{2}$ of 500 =
- h. $\frac{1}{10}$ of 650 =

The answers are across the page