

“That’s Interesting!”

Worksheets for adults to practise reading, writing, spelling and numbers



Acknowledgements

The National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) wishes to thank:

- Edel Donnellan from NALA's Tutoring Service who wrote the worksheets.
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While every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this book is accurate, the National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) accepts no legal responsibility for any errors and omissions.

About these worksheets

Since 2013, the National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) has produced 'The Distance Learner' worksheets for students and members of NALA. You may have seen these worksheets in our monthly email to members.

This is the first time we are bringing some of the worksheets together in one pack. The worksheets can be used to practise reading, writing, spelling and numbers. Each worksheet has a piece of text followed by exercises. You can read and do the exercises on your own, or use these worksheets with the help of a tutor.

You might find some of these worksheets hard and if you need help with any of them, you can ring NALA's Freephone. For the maths exercises you can use the calculator on your phone or ask your tutor for help.

In 'The Distance Learner', the texts cover a wide range of topics, from human stories, current affairs to traditions and history.

NALA believes learning is an active and expressive process. You should be able to explore the methods and materials that help you learn best. You can flick through the pages of this pack and stop on one that catches your eye, or go from the beginning to the end.

In this pack we have included the edition number and date of when the original worksheet came out.

You can find the answers for some of the activities on pages 63 to 65 at the end of the pack.

If you enjoy these worksheets, you can view other worksheets at this link on the NALA website:

nala.ie/publications/?category=the-distance-learner

Become a member

NALA continues to produce new Distance Learner worksheets each month. We include the worksheets in our email to NALA members. If you are not already a NALA member, we would love you to join. To find out about joining NALA as a member, telephone our Student and Membership Officer, Margaret Murray, on 01 412 7928 or go to our website:

www.nala.ie/become-a-member/

Further help is available

If you need help with these worksheets, or with reading, writing, maths or digital skills, you can contact NALA.

We're here from 9.30am to 5pm,
Monday - Friday.

**Call us on Freephone
1 800 20 20 65
or text LEARN to 50050**

We can talk to you about your learning options. We can refer you to your local adult literacy centre. You can study online on our Learn with NALA eLearning website www.learnwithnala.ie or with a tutor over the phone.

Breakdown of words in this story:

- anniversary ann iv ers ar y
- broadcaster broad cast er
- commentator com ment a tor
- commentary com ment ar y
- wireless wire less
- entertainment en ter tain ment
- funeral fu ner al
- responsibility res pon sib il it y

This month marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of the late great sports broadcaster Michael O’Hehir. For almost 50 years he was the voice of sport and in particular the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA). He brought live coverage of GAA football and hurling matches to all parts of Ireland.



Michael O’Hehir on ‘Sport in Action’ set (1972)
Image courtesy of RTÉ Photographic Archive

This was a time in Ireland when most people did not have cars and couldn’t travel to matches. Electricity and television were still to arrive and so the radio, or the wireless as it was known, was the only form of entertainment. Many homes did not even own a radio so it would not be unusual for

large groups to gather around the radio at a neighbour’s house to listen to matches on a Sunday afternoon. O’Hehir’s commentaries brought games to life. His ability to describe the action and pace of a game had people on the edge of their seats.

Born in Dublin to Clare parents, O’Hehir applied for the position of commentator with RTÉ in 1938 while still in school. In fact, he went for the interview in his school uniform. In August of that year, he did his first match commentary and it became clear that he had a special talent. From 1938 until 1985 he became part of every home in Ireland. His voice brought us all the major GAA matches and All Ireland Finals on radio and later on television.

In 1947, the GAA park in New York, known as the Polo Grounds was opened. It was decided that the football All Ireland that year between Cavan and Kerry would be held there. O’Hehir gave one of his most outstanding commentaries, which was broadcast to Ireland by means of a telephone.

In 1963, United States’ (US) President John F Kennedy was shot dead in America just a few months after his visit to Ireland. O’Hehir, who was on holidays in America at the time, had the tough job of broadcasting the funeral to the Irish people. His coverage of the funeral won him much praise here and in the US.

A few weeks before he was to broadcast his 100th All Ireland, O’Hehir suffered a stroke which cruelly affected his speech and so ended his broadcasting career. He died in 1996.

A New Beginning – Update on COVID-19

After almost three months shops, garages, and from the end of June, restaurants will open again for business. However, shopping and going out is now very different.

All shops can only allow a set number of people in the shop at any one time. We have had to learn to queue, wash our hands very often, use hand sanitiser on the way in and out of every shop and in many cases wear face masks. Remember! When I wear

a mask it stops me from spreading to other people any germs that I might be carrying.

We can gather socially in a group of up to six people as long as we keep the 2-metre social distance at all times. The Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar, has said that as the country begins to reopen, the responsibility of preventing the spread of COVID-19 is now on each one of us. We must therefore continue to wash our hands very often, keep the 2-metre social distance at all times and remember to self-isolate if we have any of the symptoms of the virus.

List of words ending in **age**

age	baggage	courage	image	marriage	village
page	bandage	damage	language	message	shortage
stage	cottage	garage	manage	package	sausage

When you are learning to spell a new word, break the word into parts (syllables) to help you.

For example: the word courage can be broken into 2 syllables: **cour age**

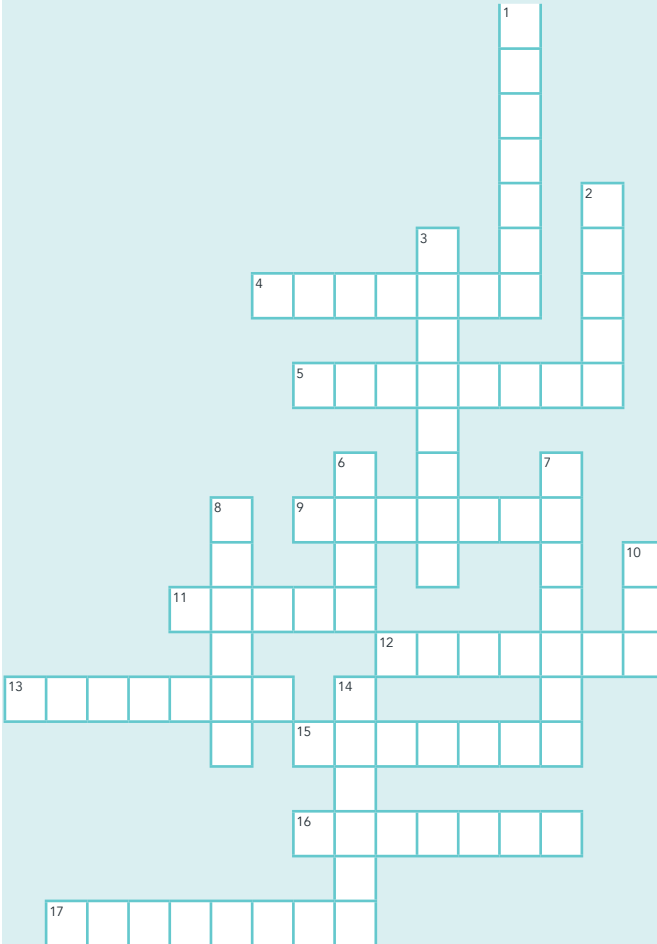


Fill in the blanks.

Use the words from the list above.

- The nurse put a _____ on the cut.
- Bacon, egg and _____ for breakfast.
- I read the first _____ of the book.
- The storm caused a lot of _____.
- She is from a small _____ in the country.
- I received a _____ in the post.
- We stayed in a small _____ by the sea.
- My car is in the _____.
- The singer stood up on the _____.
- He is 80 years of _____.
- There is a _____ of water in hot weather.
- Leave a _____ on my phone.

Crossword



Across

- 4. A small house (7)
- 5. When there is not enough of something (8)
- 9. Suitcases (7)
- 11. A picture (5)
- 12. You have this if you are brave (7)
- 13. A small parcel (7)
- 15. This can be eaten for breakfast (7)
- 16. You put this on a cut (7)
- 17. What we speak (8)

Down

- 1. A small town (7)
- 2. A play is performed on this (5)
- 3. A wedding (8)
- 6. Part of a book (4)
- 7. Your phone beeps and you get one (7)
- 8. To cause harm to something (6)
- 10. This is how old you are (3)
- 14. Where you keep your car (6)

The answers to the clues are all words from the list on page 7.



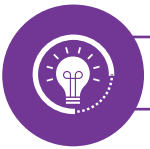
Spelling quiz - The first letter of each answer is given.

- | | | |
|-----------|---|---|
| 1. | A | Granny Smiths are a type of this fruit. |
| 2. | B | The first meal of the day. |
| 3. | C | Use this to take a photo. |
| 4. | D | We need to keep 2 metres of this from other people. |
| 5. | E | This animal never forgets. |
| 6. | F | If you are well known then you are this. |
| 7. | G | The colour associated with Ireland. |
| 8. | H | How tall you are. |



If you are stuck, look up the question online or ask a friend.

9. I _____ The capital city of this country is Rome.
10. J _____ A dessert eaten with ice cream.
11. K _____ Use this to boil water.
12. L _____ Climb up this to go higher.



The answers are on page 63.



Same meaning

Find a word from the list on page 7, that has the same meaning as what is written below.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. A small house:
_____</p> <p>2. A covering for a cut:
_____</p> <p>3. A small parcel:
_____</p> <p>4. The words we speak:
_____</p> <p>5. To be in charge of:
_____</p> <p>6. To cause harm:
_____</p> | <p>7. A wedding:
_____</p> <p>8. A leaf of a book:
_____</p> <p>9. To be brave is to have this:
_____</p> <p>10. A picture:
_____</p> <p>11. A very small town:
_____</p> <p>12. A mechanic works here:
_____</p> <p>13. When you pass on information, you are sending a:
_____</p> <p>14. When you don't have enough, there is a:
_____</p> |
|---|--|

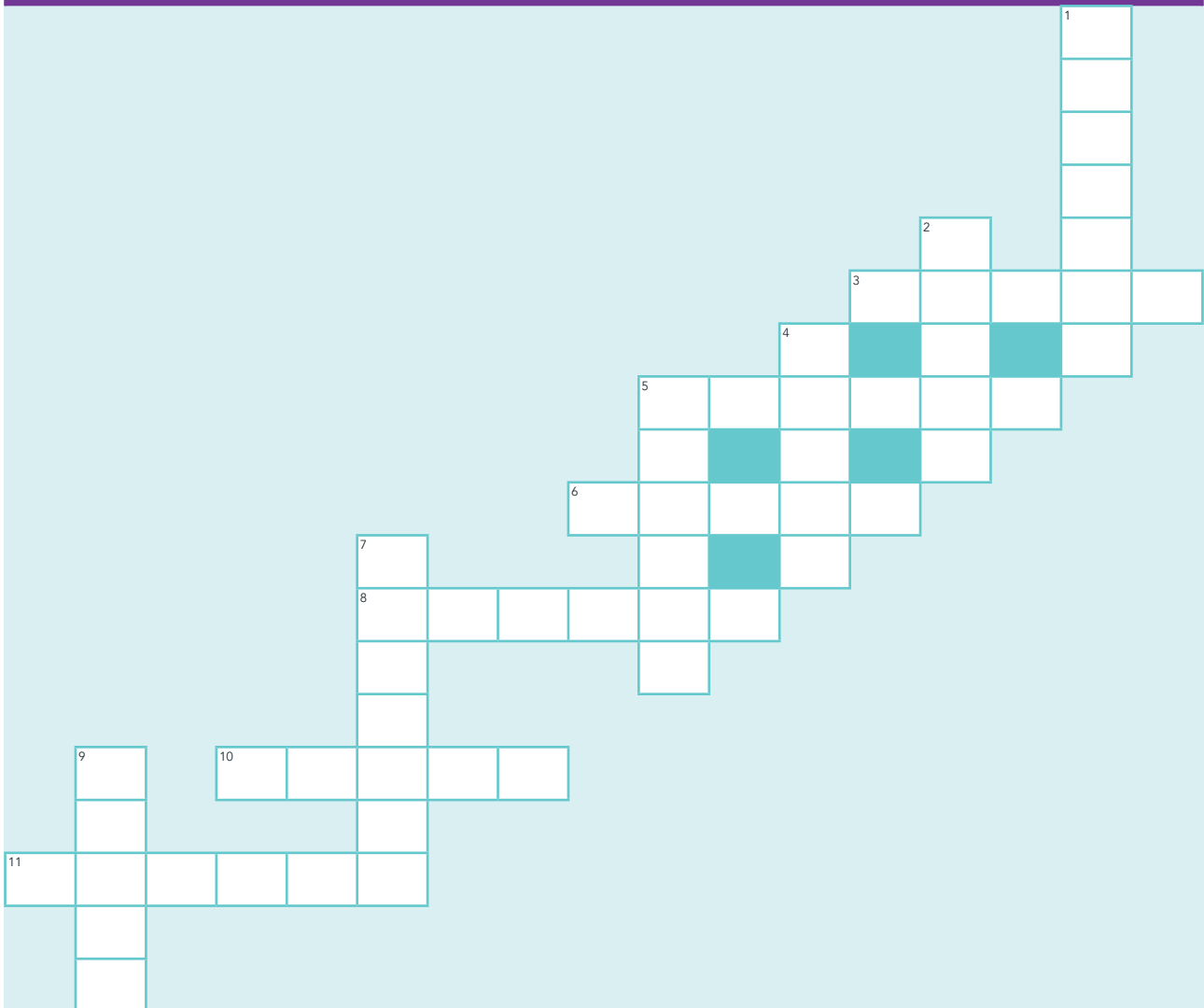
Syllables - Say each word and then break each one into syllables or parts.

management	man	age	ment	different			
wonderful				remember			
pencil				apartment			
favourite				another			

Words ending in tch

catch	patch	scratch	itch	stitch
hatch	watch	fetch	bitch	switch
match	snatch	stretch	ditch	clutch

Crossword



Across

- 3. A chick will _____ out of an egg (5)
- 5. To grab (6)
- 6. You see this at the side of a country road (5)
- 8. Helps to change gears in the car (6)
- 10. A Female dog (5)
- 11. You sew this with a needle and thread (6)

Down

- 1. You might do this after getting out of bed in the morning (7)
- 2. This tells you the time (5)
- 4. If I throw the ball will you ____ it? (5)
- 5. Use this to turn on the light (6)
- 7. You need to do this if you have an itch (7)
- 9. A game played between two teams (5)

The answers are all from the word list on the bottom of page 9.



Too often in the news these days we hear stories of violence and anger among people. However, what we don't see in the headlines are the millions of kind deeds that people perform every day of the week.

Some of these are very often quite by accident. Sometimes without it being planned, an opportunity arises for us to get a chance to perform a small random act of kindness that may well be the making of another person's day. Most of the time these acts will go unnoticed and unrewarded.

Recently people across the country were asked to give an example of a kindness they had shown to another or that someone had shown to them. These are a few examples:

"When I was working in a shop one day, I noticed an elderly lady whose leg seemed to be bleeding. I asked her was she ok and she said that someone on the bus had stood on her foot and it was sore. Her cut was bleeding a lot. I took her to the bathroom and cleaned and covered her cut. She was upset. I asked her where she lived and I gave her a lift home in my car. She was so happy to be looked after and came in a few days later with a little gift." - A from Dublin

"Six years ago, a young couple in our village with small children had a fire in their house and it was badly damaged. They had to move out of their house for several months. My wife and I had a chat one night and decided to help them. We decided to give them a gift of some money to help them out. We went to them and explained what we would like to do for them and asked if it was ok. We gave them the money and they were delighted. When the house was

renovated and they moved back in, we were asked to the house warming to thank us for the help we gave them." - F from Laois

"On a lovely sunny day last summer I was sitting in my garden when my neighbour who is a girl in her 20's, stopped her car outside my gate and came in and gave me an ice cream. She was coming from the shop, saw me sitting outside and decided to give me a little treat!" - F from Clare

"I was in a queue at the checkout of a supermarket awaiting my turn. There was a young mother and a small child ahead of me. When her shopping was added up she was short a little over €5. She asked the assistant to take back a couple of things including some yogurts. The little boy started to cry and was asking her not to give back the yogurt. I said to the woman that I would give her the money. She said it was ok but I insisted. She was very thankful." - M from Cork

"A few years ago I lost my son in an accident. I work as a school secretary and took some time off work. The day I returned to work, a month from the day my son died I was feeling very down when to my surprise a little girl came to the door of the office with a bunch of flowers for me. She didn't say anything, she just smiled. It was such a lovely thought." - M from Mayo

Many believe that "what goes around comes around" in other words when you show kindness to others kindness will be shown to you at a later stage. In Cork city in 1953 a mother was out walking with her baby daughter who was in a pram.

She was pushing the pram up a steep narrow hill when two cars turned down the hill. To her horror the second car went to overtake the first car which meant she and her baby would be crushed. Seeing the danger, the driver of the first car pulled over stopping the second car and the accident was avoided. The woman went to thank the driver and saw that

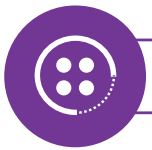
it was the famous Cork hurler Christy Ring. Twenty-six years later, Christy Ring collapsed and died suddenly on a street in Cork. The first person to run to his assistance was a young teacher who had seen it happen. This young woman was none other than the baby in the pram who Christy had saved from a possible death all those years before.



2018 end of year quiz

1. Name the Limerick born singer who died suddenly earlier this year?
2. Name the American civil rights leader who was shot dead 50 years ago this year?
3. Name the Limerick business man who donated money to every GAA club in Ireland?
4. The 100th Anniversary of what world event was held recently?
5. What is the red poppy flower a symbol of?
6. Name the former President of the United States who died recently?
7. Name the wife of President Higgins?
8. Name one other candidate who ran in the 2018 Irish presidential election?
9. Name the former leader of Sinn Féin who stood down this year?
10. What festival is held in Lisdoonvarna every year?
11. Name the storm which caused the second day of the National Ploughing Championship to be cancelled?
12. What county won the All Ireland Hurling Final this year for the first time in 45 years?
13. Name the woman who was first to speak out about the cervical screening scandal?
14. What international female artist played two sold out nights in Croke Park in June 2018?
15. Name the most successful female boxer in the world who comes from Bray in County Wicklow?
16. In what country did the cave rescue take place of 13 young boys trapped for 17 days?





Numbers quiz - How many?

The answers to these questions are all numbers.

1. How many days in November?

2. How many minutes in 3 hours?

3. How many seconds in 5 minutes?

4. How many eggs in 2 ½ dozen?

5. How many counties are there in Ireland?

6. If you scored a hat trick, how many goals have you scored?

7. For how many years does the Irish President serve?

8. Number of players in a rugby team?

9. How many years in ¼ of a century?

10. How many days in a Leap Year?

11. A car can travel 200km on 20 litres of petrol. How much petrol will it use if it travels 100km?

12. I can buy 10 apples for €8, how much will 6 apples cost me?

13. How much is it to post a letter in Ireland?



Make new words

See how many words you can make using the letters in the boxes below. You must use the middle letter o in every word.

n	e	r
t	o	d
p	a	s



The answers to the Numbers quiz are on page 63.

3,200 children under five in the Tallaght area of Dublin will receive a free book in the post every month up until their 5th birthday thanks to a charity set up by American country and western star, Dolly Parton. Dolly set up her Imagination Library in 1995. It provides free age suitable books every month to over 1 million children in five different countries. Dolly set up the organisation as a tribute to her father who never learned to read. Dolly said, "He was the smartest man I have ever known but I know in my heart his inability to read probably kept him from fulfilling all of his dreams."

The aim of the organisation is to encourage children to read and have a love of books. Parents say that children get so excited when a book arrives in the post addressed to them. An Post have agreed to deliver the books free of charge. It is hoped that this project may be spread out to other parts of Ireland in the near future.



Dolly Parton "Dolly Parton 1988" by Alejo Castillo is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0

Have you been to your local library lately?

There are over 330 library branches in the Republic of Ireland with almost 750,000 members.

Over the next five years the library service hopes to double that membership. Last year some major changes were made to the service. Each and every library in Ireland is now connected to the same computer system. This means that a members can now request a book from a library in any part of the country and it will be delivered to their local branch within a few days. It won't cost you anything to join as membership is free. There are 12 million books available to borrow to suit all tastes and on all topics. To make it easier for you to choose a book the books are split into categories. There are:

- children's books for all ages,
- teenagers and young adults,
- adult sections,
- large print books for those with sight difficulties,
- adult literacy books for emerging readers, and
- books on CD, for anyone who is blind, or who would just like to hear a story read to them.

A member can take out up to six books for a period of four weeks at a time. Since January this year there are no longer fines given for not bringing back the books on time.

Books are not the only things that you can borrow in your library. You can also borrow films and music CDs. All the newspapers and popular magazines are available to read in the library.

Throughout the year all libraries hold events for children. They range from arts and crafts classes and reading competitions to guided tours of local areas of interest and much more. Storytelling is held weekly for young children. During the school holidays the larger libraries all hold daily children's activities which are very popular.

All libraries have computers and internet facilities available for members to use. Many libraries offer computer classes.

Age Action organise computer training all over Ireland, for people aged over 55 years. The training is often held in libraries. The library service in Ireland offers online courses to all members. These are courses that are done online either from your own computer at home or in the library, by simply registering with your membership number. There are 400 courses available on a broad choice of subjects.

By registering online, you can also access a choice of books and many popular magazines which you can read or download to your computer, tablet, iPad or smart phone. For more information on all the library online services visit:

<https://www.librariesireland.ie/elibrary>

How to make plural words. Plural means more than one of something.

For most plurals, you just add s.

For example: dog becomes dogs
boy becomes boys
tree becomes trees

For words ending in s, ss, x, ch and sh, you add es.

For example: bus becomes buses
glass becomes glasses
box becomes boxes

For words ending in f or fe, you change the f or fe to ves.

For example: calf becomes calves
knife becomes knives
life becomes lives

Note: There are some exceptions for f.

For example: chef becomes chefs
roof becomes roofs
cliff becomes cliffs.

For words ending in y, if there is a vowel before (vowels are a, e, i, o, u), you add s.

For example: play becomes plays
key becomes keys

If there is a consonant before the y, you change y to ies.

For example: pony becomes pon**ies**
 lorry becomes lorr**ies**
 lolly becomes loll**ies**

For words ending in o, if there is a vowel before the o, you add s.

For example: radio becomes radi**s**
 video becomes vide**s**

If there is a consonant before the o, you add es.

For example: tomato becomes tomato**es**
 hero becomes hero**es**
 echo becomes echo**es**

Some words do not change at all.

For example: fish, deer and sheep

Some words change completely.

For example: child becomes children
 mouse becomes mice
 tooth becomes teeth

Plurals	Opposites
Using the information, write the plural of the following words	Find a word that means the opposite of the words below. The first one is done for you.
child _____	asleep <u>awake</u>
knife _____	wrong _____
brush _____	rich _____
boss _____	far _____
woman _____	empty _____
mouse _____	short _____
tax _____	expensive _____
berry _____	heavy _____
toy _____	early _____
lady _____	fast _____
tooth _____	love _____
branch _____	sad _____

Maths

To get a fraction, you divide by the number on the bottom line and multiply by the number on top.

For example: $\frac{3}{4}$ of 100 =
 $100 \div$ (divided by) 4 and \times (multiply) your answer by 3.
 $100 \div 4 = 25$
 $25 \times 3 = 75$

Find the answers to the following:

$\frac{3}{4}$ of 60 =
 $\frac{5}{6}$ of 120 =
 $\frac{2}{3}$ of 90 =

Music fans all over the world were shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden death of singer, song-writer and member of the band The Cranberries, Dolores O’Riordan. She was found dead in a hotel where she was staying while recording in London. She was only 46.



Dolores O’Riordan “The Cranberries” by Eva Rinaldi
Celebrity Photographer is licensed under CC BY-SA 2.0

Dolores was born in 1971 in Ballybricken in Co. Limerick, the youngest of seven children. She was singing and writing her own songs from the age of 12. She became lead singer with rock band the Cranberries when she was only 19. A gifted songwriter, she wrote many of the band’s top selling hits including “Zombie” and “Linger”. She had an unusual high pitched, haunting voice which gave the band their own unique sound. At the height of their success in the 1990’s, the band became popular all over the world especially in the United States where many bands find it difficult to have success. They made seven albums and sold more than 40 million albums worldwide.

In the last few years, due to depression and other health problems, Dolores had stopped touring and singing in public and the band had split up. Her marriage to her husband of 20 years, Don Burton, also ended. However, the band had started recording again recently and were planning to go on tour in the coming months.

Although she travelled all over the world, Dolores remained a Limerick girl at heart and was a regular visitor to the county where her mother and family still live. Local people were extremely proud of her success. It was only fitting then that her funeral was held in Limerick where thousands queued to pay their respects and say goodbye to a great talent. Dolores was mother to three children, Taylor (20), Molly (17) and Dakota (12). May she rest in peace.

Kerry Baby Enquiry to be reopened

In April 1984, the body of a newborn baby was washed up on a beach in Cahersiveen, Co Kerry. The baby, who was given the name Baby John, was found to have several stab wounds to his body.

Around the same time, a young woman, Joanne Hayes, who lived almost 50 miles away gave birth at home to a stillborn baby. She buried the baby on her family farm. However, it was believed by the guards that she was the mother of the Cahersiveen baby and she was charged with his murder. Joanne and her family claimed they were forced into saying that this was true. Although the body of Joanne’s own baby was recovered from the family farm and with

Human stories

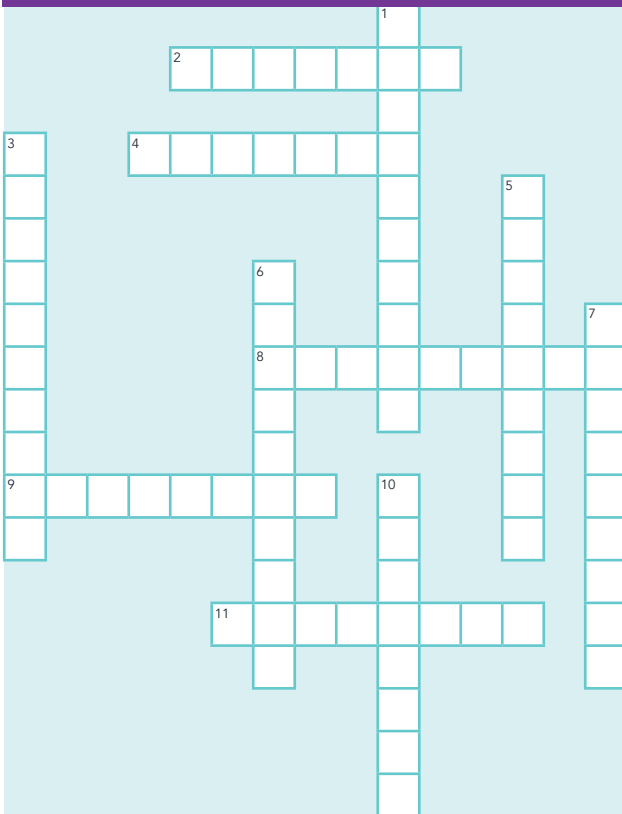
no other evidence, Joanne was charged with the murder of Baby John. However, a few months later the charges were dropped.



Later, it was decided to hold an enquiry into why Joanne and her family were forced into confessing to a murder they knew nothing about. The enquiry lasted for six months. However, although it was confirmed that she was not the mother of Baby John, she never received an apology for being wrongly accused.

Now 34 years later, the guards and the State have finally apologised to Joanne Hayes for everything she and her family had to put up with back in 1984. However, the mystery still remains as to who Baby John's parents were and how he ended up to be found dead on the beach. The guards have now reopened the investigation and are hoping that with DNA evidence they may finally be able to solve the mystery.

Crossword



Across

2. Band of 7 colours across the sky (7)
4. Where you catch a flight (7)
8. The "Irish Times" is one of these (9)
9. The person you rent a house from (8)
11. A colour for your lips (8)

Down

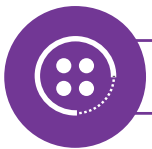
1. Used to clean your teeth (10)
3. Your daughter's child is your _____ (10)
5. You leave this on the sand when you walk on it (9)
6. Found at the tip of each finger (10)
7. First meal of the day (9)
10. The day you were born (8)

The answers to the clues are all from the wordlist on the next page.



Compound words: when two words are joined together to make a new word.

airport	everyone	footprint	headache	landlord	newspaper	rainbow
birthday	fingernail	grandchild	homemade	leaflet	timetable	shoelace
breakfast	fireplace	handshake	jigsaw	lipstick	toothbrush	weekend



Maths

1. Mary owns a small shop. Her total takings for Friday, Saturday and Sunday add up to €1,256.

If her takings on Friday were €356 and she took in €298 on Saturday, how much did she take in on Sunday?

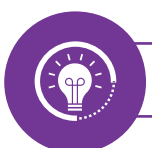
2. I can buy half a dozen apples for €3.60 in shop A. I can buy 5 apples for €4.00 in shop B. I can buy 4 apples for €2.80 in shop C.

Which shop is the best value?

3. Tim earns €480 per week. Jane earns double this. Peter earns $\frac{1}{2}$ (half) of what Tim earns.

How much does Jane earn per week?

How much does Peter earn per week?



The answers are on page 63.

When people speak of heroes they often think of famous sportspeople, singers or actors. However, real heroes are often those people who have spent their lives caring for and fighting on behalf of those who need a helping hand.

Brother Kevin Crowley has been running the Capuchin Day Centre in Dublin since 1974. Now in his 80's and despite having had two major heart operations, Brother Kevin is working harder than ever. Nothing has prepared him for the increase in numbers attending the centre in recent years. The centre provides two meals a day to almost 600 people. They give out 2,000 food parcels a week and also provide showers, clothes and a health clinic.



Brother Kevin Crowley © REUTERS / Alamy Stock Photo

Above all, Brother Kevin says that everyone who comes to the centre is made to feel welcome and is treated with kindness. He says that in recent years it is alarming to meet the number of families, with young children, who are homeless. Many of these have been given temporary homes in hotels, therefore they have nowhere to cook and the children have nowhere to play.

It costs over €2.5 million a year to run the centre. They get €450,000 from the government so they depend on donations from the public to make up the shortfall. With Christmas just around the corner, the centre expects to cater for more than 3,000 people during Christmas week.

Father Peter McVerry set up his first hostel in Dublin in 1979, for young people who were living on the streets. Now the Peter McVerry Trust has 11 hostels, 100 apartments and 3 drug treatment centres and reaches out to more than 4,000 young homeless people every year.

For 40 years, Peter has stood up for all those who have no one to talk for them. He believes that any one of us could become homeless at any time. He believes the first step in helping people to get back on their feet is to treat them with respect and help them to feel good about themselves. He says that this starts with giving them a home.



Father Peter McVerry "File:Peter McVerry SJ.jpg" by Degreezero is licensed under CC BY-SA 4.0

Adi Roche set up the organisation Chernobyl Children International to help children affected by the Chernobyl Nuclear disaster.

In April 1986, a major explosion took place at a nuclear power factory near Chernobyl, a city in what is now northern Ukraine. As a result, radioactive gas spilled out and poisoned the air and countryside for hundreds of miles. In the 30 years since the explosion, over a million people have died as a result of cancer, heart problems and other illnesses.

The area around Chernobyl is still contaminated and babies are still being born with health problems. The land cannot be used for farming. Russia has more than 17 million people living in poverty.

Since 1991, Adi Roche and Chernobyl Children International have been bringing children to Ireland from affected areas, for life saving treatment and holidays. Over 25,000 children have stayed here with Irish

families. Even a short period away from the contaminated areas can make a big difference to the health of a child.



Adi Roche © WENN Rights Ltd / Alamy Stock Photo

Over €100 million has been raised in Ireland to buy lifesaving equipment for local hospitals in affected areas, and to build homes for homeless children and young adults. Adi Roche has made helping children from Chernobyl her life's work. She continues to work tirelessly and without pay.

Word search

Find these Christmas words in the word search.

s l r k k c t b p c b d e k n
 a p e e l m d j j v s e h u a
 n u e a e i j s i h a c m t t
 t o u z b d t w j p k o p j g
 a s o r n o n z f t u r k e y
 p h b w c d p i u k w a h r y
 v c r k b e g a e c p t p t d
 n j i s t n e s e r p i l n u
 w n l w i y l l o h w o o e s
 g d n d r l r e s a m n d i u
 j e d x c e u t b v h s u n d
 u u e x i d a y l x w m r v y
 p k a r x e s t q s s f s y y
 e k p b t t v z h n x e w f w
 k b g l y w t h p j a n a h a

Santa	presents	holly	wreath
Rudolph	pudding	turkey	decorations
tree	reindeer		



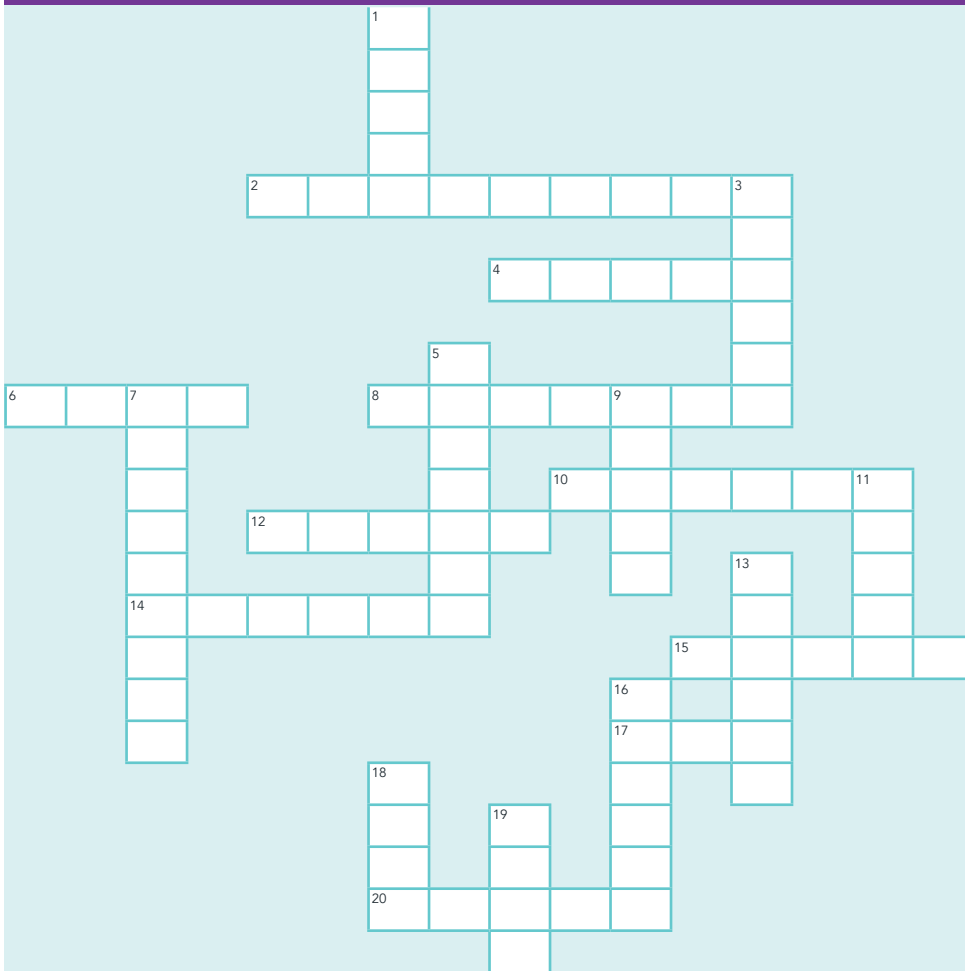
Make new words

See how many words you can make using the letters in the boxes below. You must use the middle letter o in every word.

n	p	s
t	o	l
d	e	c

"That's interesting!"

Christmas 2016 crossword



Across

- 2. Which meal is known as the "full Irish"? (9)
- 4. Michael and Danny Healy-Rae are TDs for which county? (5)
- 6. Fair_____ is a popular Irish TV Drama (4)
- 8. The late Anthony Foley was head coach for this team (7)
- 10. 2016 All Ireland football champions (6)
- 12. Capital city of France (5)
- 14. The 1916 _____ was celebrated this year. (6)
- 15. This food is popular in Italy. (5)
- 17. Surname of famous boxer who passed away this year (3)
- 20. Enda _____ is the Taoiseach (5)

Down

- 1. Cider is made from this fruit. (5)
- 3. Katie _____ Irish female boxer (6)
- 5. Plum _____ is a Christmas dessert (7)
- 7. 2016 All Ireland hurling champions (9)
- 9. New American President (5)
- 11. "Silent _____" a popular Christmas song (5)
- 13. In what country were the Olympic Games held this year? (6)
- 16. In which county would you find Salthill? (6)
- 18. Mallow is a town in which county? (4)
- 19. Lead singer with the band U2 (4)



2020 will be remembered as the year of the big lockdown. A virus that began in China in late 2019 travelled across continents and brought the world to an almost stand still.

Everyday life as we know it has changed. To stop the spread of the virus, we were required to stay at home and stay within a 5km distance of our homes, at all times, unless we have a reason to travel outside of this. Many new words such as pandemic, social distancing, self-isolation and quarantine have become part of our everyday language. All our over 70's are asked to cocoon (stay at home as much as possible).

Schools are closed, pubs, restaurants and other businesses have stopped trading and everyone who can is working from home. School children and students have had to adjust to learning and doing classes online. All sports events have been called off. Religious ceremonies have all been postponed. A funeral mass can only be attended by ten family members. For the first time in living memory, people cannot attend Sunday mass here in Ireland. Our heroes are the thousands of healthcare workers on the front line along with shop workers, lorry drivers, public transport drivers and post men and women who are keeping the country running.

However, these strange and challenging times have shown us the goodness and kindness that people are capable of as we all pull together to stay safe. In March, the government put out a call for volunteers, retired healthcare workers and anyone who would be willing to give a hand during this COVID-19 crisis. Within days 30,000 people had signed up. Members of GAA clubs, Tidy Towns groups and other community organisations across the country are delivering food and medicines and checking in on older people. Many communities are putting on street entertainment especially for older people who have been asked to stay within their own homes.

A dance teacher in one neighbourhood holds a dance exercise street class every morning for all the residents. An apartment block in Dublin's inner city holds bingo nights, the caller sits on the green outside while the residents remain on their balconies. A Cork man holds film nights every week using a projector to show old films on the wall of a building nearby.

Coronavirus COVID-19

Stay safe. Protect each other.

Continue to:

- Wash** your hands well and often to avoid contamination.
- Cover** your mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing and discard used tissue safely
- Distance** yourself at least 2 metres (6 feet) away from other people, especially those who might be unwell
- Avoid** crowds and crowded places
- Know** the symptoms. If you have them self isolate and contact your GP immediately

COVID-19 symptoms include

- > high temperature
- > cough
- > breathing difficulty
- > sudden loss of sense of smell or taste
- > flu-like symptoms

If you have any symptoms, self-isolate to protect others and call your GP for a COVID-19 test.

#holdfirm

For more information
www.gov.ie/health-covid-19
www.hse.ie

Ireland's public health advice is guided by WHO and ECDC advice

HSE | Rialtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland

Residents sit and enjoy the film from their own gardens. All this is done while keeping a social distance. Neighbours are looking out for each other and offering levels of support that has not been seen in many years.



An Post delivered postcards to every household which can be posted free to friends anywhere in Ireland. Post men and women have volunteered their services to keep an eye on older people, especially those living alone.

Motor cyclists and other drivers are delivering supplies free of charge to hospitals and nursing homes. Food companies are giving free meals to healthcare staff in busy hospitals. People have given rooms and apartments to frontline health workers so they can stay near the hospitals.

Famous singers here in Ireland and across the world are performing online, from their own homes to fundraise for charities and to help buy personal protective equipment (PPE) for health workers. Irish singer Bressie, has sent out 200 ukuleles to people who are cocooning around the country who can then learn to play by following a YouTube lesson online every week for six weeks.

Each county has now set up a Community Response Forum made up of members of the county council, health service, St. Vincent de Paul, An Garda Síochána and An Post. Anyone who is cocooning, self-isolating or in need of support, information or help of any kind can contact the service for assistance.



Think of a word

Think of a word that means the opposite of each word below. The first one is done for you.

- awake asleep

- empty

- rich

- heavy

- wrong

- long

- dark

- expensive

- under

- thick

- stale

Homophones - words that sound the same but have a different spelling and meaning.

aloud / allowed	knew / new	some / sum	waist / waste
band / banned	pain / pane	stairs / stares	where / were
board / bored	real / reel	through / threw	wood / would



Choose the correct word from the list above.

- _____ did I leave my glasses?

- A table is made of _____ .

- I bought a _____ car.

- Smoking is not _____ indoors.

- I have a _____ in my ear.

- There are a lot of steps on that _____ .

- He climbed in _____ a window.

- Put all your _____ in the bin.

- Is it _____ or is it a fake?

- I _____ her years ago.

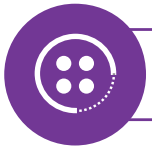
- Can you read it _____ so we can hear you?



Write down the past tense of these action words.

The first one is done for you.

- I make _____ I made _____
- I say _____ I _____
- I think _____ I _____
- I buy _____ I _____
- I see _____ I _____
- I am _____ I _____
- I drive _____ I _____
- I hear _____ I _____
- I know _____ I _____
- I bring _____ I _____
- I sing _____ I _____
- I try _____ I _____
- I sleep _____ I _____



Maths

1. Ann has a car loan for €12,000. She will also pay 10% interest on the loan. She will repay the loan and interest over 5 years.
 - a. How much will she have to repay each year?

 - b. If she repays the loan every month, how much will she pay per month?

2. Tom works 40 hours each week. He works $\frac{1}{5}$ of his hours at the office and the rest from home.
 - a. How many hours does he work at the office?

 - b. How many hours does he work from home?

3. I can buy 8 oranges for € 4.80.
 - a. How much will I pay for 10?

 - b. How much will I pay for 4?



Unscramble these food words.

The first one is done for you.

- Bread and (uttbre) butter

- Fish and (hicps)

- Strawberries and (rcame)

- Bacon and (bbaagcae)

- Sausage and (rshaer)

- Curry and (irce)

- Beans on (aostt)

- Crackers and (eechse)

- Rhubarb and (usctrda)

- Turkey and (mah)



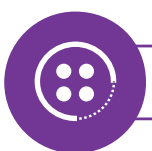
**You can use your calculator to help you work out the answer.
If you are stuck, ring NALA on Freephone 1 800 20 20 65.
The answers are on page 63.**

Word search

p n o c b y e x r k
 g j h v q b s r i d
 a w o w r x e g c t
 n m j x n e e a e j
 r e t t u b h j n k
 a c r e a m c s f s
 x p d s x j t m a g
 s d n s r j u k q r
 o x c v q j c u z v
 h o w t g v q z a h
 l f c n k d y y m k
 i s a o a w f h t l
 j e b a w w z c d h
 d f b o t p u k a n
 h t a r x s s m d t
 j z g n t p w k t a
 m q e a i b e y t o
 k b r h c p e p g g
 h d c e d b p f d n
 w n z d a o y o h k

Find these food words in the word search:

beans	butter	cabbage	cheese	chips
cream	custard	ham	rasher	rice

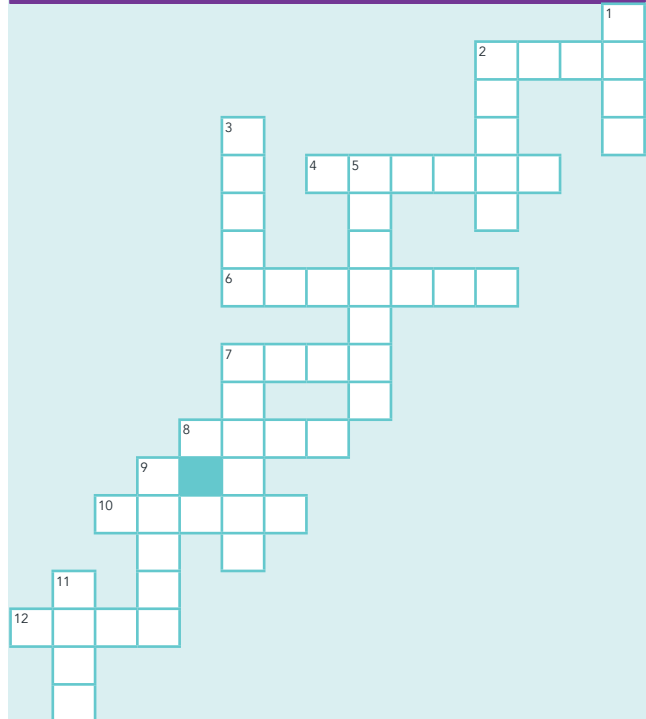


Maths

Finish the patterns below.

- 2, 4, 6, 8,
- 10, 20, 30, 40,
- 40, 35, 30, 25,
- 2, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 2,
- X, X, O, X, X, O,
- ☒ ☒ ▲ ► ☒
- ➡ ➡ ↑ ← ➡
- ♥ ☹ ♥ ☹
- ● ◐ ◑ ●

Crossword



Across

2. Is it _____ or false? (4)
4. When something is not allowed – it is... (6)
6. I like to walk _____ the woods (7)
7. The place where the house is built (4)
8. I had to replace a _____ of glass (4)
10. I have nothing to do I'm _____ (5)
12. U2 is one (4)

Down

1. I need to buy a _____ of thread (4)
2. She _____ the ball to the other player (5)
3. You go to Specsavers to get this tested (5)
5. You are not _____ in here (7)
7. When someone looks at you for a long time (6)
9. _____ you like more tea? (5)
11. A toothache is a _____ in your tooth (4)

Some of the answers are from the Homophones list on page 25.

Thousands of secondary school children across Ireland recently took to the streets as part of International Action Day. They joined millions of students and protesters all over the world to demand that the leaders of our countries take action on the effects of climate change and global warming on the planet.



The “School Climate Strike Movement” which was set up by the 16 year old climate activist from Sweden, Greta Thunberg. The Movement has highlighted to young people that they will be the generation that will be most affected by the effects of climate change.

Global warming happens when high amounts of carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other gases trap the heat from the sun and store it in the earth’s surface. This is known as the greenhouse effect. As we now have higher amounts of these gases being produced than ever before, more heat is being trapped. This causes our temperatures to rise. In fact the last five years have been the hottest on record.

Heat waves are now very common. Many European countries saw temperatures this year as high as 45 degrees, the highest on record. Ice is melting in the Arctic regions at a fast rate causing rising sea levels and flooding. Changes in the earth’s climate in

the last few years, means we now have more storms and flooding in the winter as well as seriously high temperatures, droughts and water shortages in summer.

What has caused the increase in carbon and other gases? Carbon is produced from the burning of fuels such as coal, turf, timber and oil. Emissions from diesel powered vehicles such as cars, lorries, trains and more especially airplanes are all responsible for carbon. In the last 20 years air travel has become hugely popular and cheaper and car ownership has soared.

Our use of plastic in all areas is also a major cause of carbon emissions. Large amounts of oil and gas are used in the making of plastic. As customers we dump 90% of our plastic waste that takes many, many years to breakdown.

Green leaves in trees need carbon dioxide to grow. Trees take carbon dioxide out of the air which is good for the environment. In fact, a fully grown oak tree will take in the same amount of carbon dioxide given off by a family car in one year. However recently in South America thousands of acres of forests are being burned down to make way for development. The loss of the trees is bad enough but the huge levels of carbon dioxide given off from the fires is extremely dangerous.

All of this will have serious effects on our health. Very high temperatures can allow infections and diseases to spread, water droughts and flooding at other times makes it almost impossible to grow food and feed animals. The air we breathe and the water we drink are all in danger of being affected. The World Health Organisation has said it

believes that between the years 2030 and 2050, a quarter of a million people will die directly from the effects of global warming.

We all need to take responsibility in reducing carbon emissions. Many countries are bringing in a ban on the use of diesel cars in cities over the next 10 years. Here, plastic drinking straws and plastic knives and forks are being banned. The ESB will have to phase out the burning of coal and peat to generate electricity.

Each one of us can make a few changes in our own lives. Walk, cycle or take public transport where possible. Conserve the water we use. Cut down on our use of plastic by opting for reusable items instead of single use plastics. Buy goods with less

packaging. Consider buying LED light bulbs.

We can bring our own coffee mugs to be filled instead of using take away cups which end up as waste in landfill. Food waste which makes up a lot of the waste in most households can be reduced by only cooking the amount we need or finding recipes that will use up leftovers or by composting the leftovers.



Reduce, reuse and recycle

When to use Capital letters

- At the beginning of every sentence.

For example: The sun was shining.

- When using I (to refer to yourself).

For example: John and I went to school together.

- For the days of week, for months and for public holidays.

For example: Monday, September, Christmas, St Patrick's Day.

- At the start of names and surnames.

For example: Mary Black or Sam O'Brien.

- For names of places, towns, street names, countries, rivers, mountains and buildings.

For example: Bray, Co. Wicklow, River Shannon, Croke Park or The Grand Hotel.

- For letters used in abbreviations (shortened words).

For example: RTÉ, NALA or PRSI.

- For the title of a person.

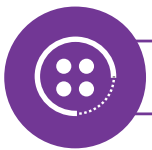
For example Mr., Ms., Mrs. or Dr.

- For titles of books, films and newspapers.

For example: "Harry Potter", "Star Wars" or "The Star".

- For brand names.

For example: Barry's Tea, Tayto, Kit Kat or Jacobs Fig Rolls.



Maths

Amy earns €10 per hour. On Saturdays she gets time and a half and on Sundays she gets double time. She works 6 hours a day Monday to Friday, 4 hours on Saturday and 3 hours on Sunday.

1. How many hours a week does Amy work?

2. What is her hourly rate of pay on a Saturday?

3. What is her hourly rate on a Sunday?

4. What is her total pay every week?

5. If she saves $\frac{1}{10}$ of her wages how much does she save each week?

6. How much will she have saved in a year?



Rewrite

Rewrite this passage putting in capital letters where needed.

my friend paul and i share an apartment in parnell street in dublin. paul is from limerick and works in bank of ireland. i work in aib. we both moved up here in june. the apartment is lovely. our neighbours, mr and mrs smith are very nice and i bring their dog, rover, out for a walk on tuesdays and fridays. paul and i take turns cooking the evening meal. there is a spar shop around the corner so we buy most things there. i will eat anything but paul is fussy. he will only eat galtee rashers, brennans bread and avonmore milk, so sometimes we have to go to tesco to buy these brands. we go to the savoy cinema every saturday. last week we went to see a film called the snowman.



The answers for the Maths exercise are on page 64.

The World Wide Web or the web as it is known is 30 years old. In March 1989 a British scientist Tim Berners-Lee, invented a system in order to share information among scientists across the world.

The web as we know it today is a huge bank of information and documents which are stored in locations known as websites and can be shared through the internet to every part of the world. We use software known as a search engine to search for the website or the topic we wish to find. Google is probably the most well-known search engine.

Millions of people search the web daily for all kinds of reasons. It has given us opportunities for learning and communication across continents. Recently the founder Berners-Lee said that the web has changed the world forever and has become for people a library, a shop, a doctor's surgery, a cinema, an office, a bank, a school and much more. We now have information at our fingertips that before this would have taken hours of searching in books and newspapers.

However, with good also comes opportunity for evil. The web is often mis-used and has been used to spread lies and hatred and promote acts of violence as well as stealing money from credit cards and other crime. Children in particular are at risk of becoming targets for these scammers as today younger and younger children are allowed access to the web.

Earlier this year the Minister for Communications, Richard Bruton announced that he intends to bring in a

new law to regulate online content. He said that online and social media companies cannot be depended on to regulate their own content. He will bring in the Online Safety Act which will set out the steps these companies must take to protect the safety of their users, especially children.

In order to ensure that these steps are followed the Minister plans to appoint an online safety commissioner to oversee it.

Grand National win for Ireland

The Irish horse, "Tiger Roll", with jockey Davy Russell and trained by Meath trainer Gordon Elliott, made history this week when he won the Aintree Grand National for the second year in a row.



Tiger Roll ridden by Davy Russell celebrates winning the Grand National © News Images / Alamy Stock Photo

The Aintree Grand National held every year in Liverpool in England is regarded as being the toughest steeplechase in the world. A steeplechase is a distance horse race where competitors have to jump fence and ditch obstacles.

The 6.9 kilometre race which has 30 fences to jump has some of the most dangerous jumps of any race. "Becher's Brook" which is the tallest of the fences at nearly 1.5 metres, requires a lot of skill and experience if both horse and jockey are to jump it safely. To win the race is regarded as a huge achievement but to win it twice is incredible. Tiger Roll is owned by Ryanair boss Michael O'Leary.

Tiger Roll was led through the streets of Summerhill in Meath home of trainer Gordon Elliott where crowds turned up to welcome him home.

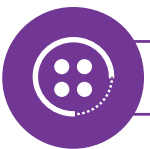
Easter

Have you ever wondered why Easter falls on a different date every year and how that date is decided?

As far back as the 5th century it was decided that Easter Sunday would fall on the first Sunday following the first full moon that comes after the spring equinox on 21 March. The Equinox is the day that we have equal hours of day and night and falls twice a year on 21 March and 21 September.

Words with mp

camp	ramp	empty	dimple	bump	lump	stump
damp	cramp	temper	pimple	dump	pump	grumpy
lamp	stamp	limp	simple	jump	plump	trump



Maths

- John is twice Peter's age. Paul is half Peter's age. Mary is $\frac{3}{4}$ of John's age. If John is 60:
 - What age is Peter?

 - What age is Paul?

 - What age is Mary?

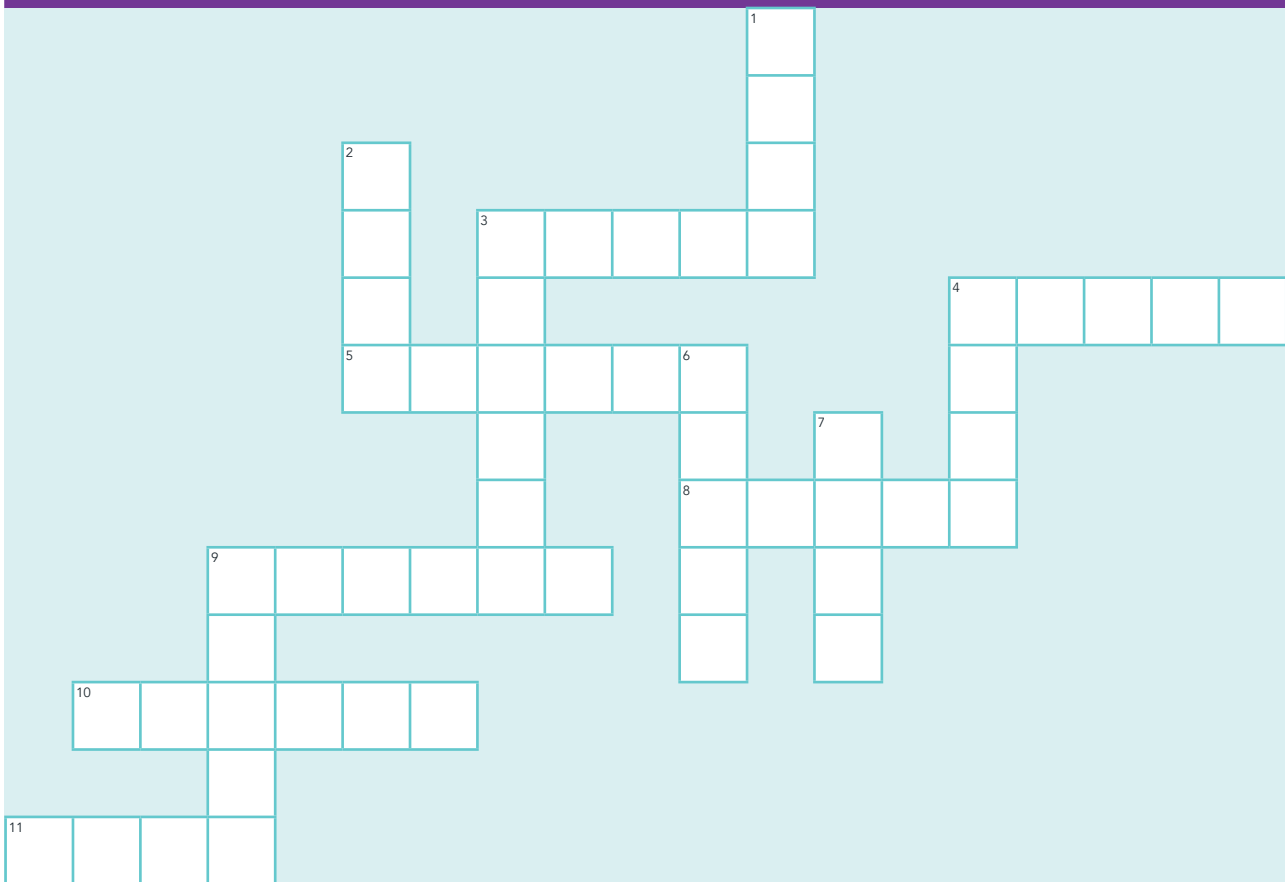
- The rate for staying in a hotel is €99 per night per person for bed and breakfast. Children under 12 are free but are charged €5 each for breakfast. Children over 12 are €50 per night for bed and breakfast. If I book 2 nights bed and breakfast in the hotel for myself, my partner and our 3 children aged 9, 11 and 15 how much will I have to pay?

- My car can travel 120 km for €25 of petrol. How far should it travel for €75?



The answers are on page 64.

Crossword

**Across**

3. Put this on a letter to post it (5)
4. A pain (5)
5. A red spot on your skin (6)
8. A little bit fat (5)
9. Someone who gets angry easily is said to have a t..... (6)
10. Someone who is irritable, not in a good mood. (6)
11. Lift your two legs in the air (4)

Down

1. If your foot is sore you might do this when you walk (4)
2. If something is not quite dry it is this (4)
3. Easy (6)
4. You might use a tent for this (4)
6. Not full (5)
7. Throw rubbish around (4)
9. The American president (5)

The answers are all from the word list on page 32.



If you are stuck, look up the question online or ask a friend.

In the news recently, we heard the story of a Dublin Bus driver who suffered a cardiac arrest while driving. His life was saved by a passenger who gave him CPR. Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation, or CPR for short, involves a series of steps that are simple to do but are vital in saving a person's life. When a person stops breathing, someone trained in CPR will perform steps which involve:

- sending for the Emergency Services;
- giving clear instructions of the location and the type of emergency involved;
- starting a series of 30 chest compressions on the patient followed by giving the person two mouth breaths and continuing with more compressions and mouth breaths until the ambulance arrives.

Emergency services will have a defibrillator and will have training in using this on the patient.



Every year in Ireland more than 5,000 people of all ages suffer a cardiac arrest. Many of these happen in the home. For every one minute that the person is unconscious their chance of survival reduces by 10%. If CPR is not given within ten minutes then chances of recovery are almost zero. An automated external defibrillator (AED) is a device that when attached to the patient will give

electric shocks to the patient's heart to get it beating. Defibrillators can be found in every community in Ireland.

CPR, defibrillator or First Response training as it is known, is widely available and everyone is encouraged to complete a course. The course will also show how to help a person who is choking. Although the steps involved are not difficult, it is important to be shown the correct way of carrying them out. It is important to remember we might someday be in a situation where we are the only person available who can provide assistance when a person stops breathing. Anyone providing this help is protected by the "Good Samaritan Law". This is a law, that legally protects anyone giving assistance to another person who is ill or injured even if the person does not recover. To watch a training video on CPR and to check out training courses available in your area visit the Irish Heart Foundation <https://irishheart.ie>

Clocks no longer to change

Last year the European Union (EU) commission conducted a survey online across Europe asking people about their opinion on changing the clocks back and forward. 84% said they no longer wanted the clocks to change. So, from March 2021, due to a new EU policy, we will no longer have to change our clocks back or forward an hour.

On the last Sunday of March each year the clocks have been brought forward an hour for summer time and on the last Sunday in October put back an hour for winter time. This was done so that in summer we would have more daylight in the evenings and in winter more daylight

in the morning. The idea was to use as much daylight as possible thus saving on electricity and fuel. However, in winter it really was no advantage as evenings became very long with darkness beginning as early as 4pm. Daylight Saving Time or DST as it was known was first introduced in Ireland and Britain in 1916.

EuroMillions winners

The largest ever EuroMillions win in Ireland worth €175.4 million was recently won in north Dublin by a family syndicate. The family, who

are mostly retired, have been playing the EuroMillions once a week for several years. The winning ticket was an €11 quick pick. They plan to share their winnings with children, grandchildren and other family and friends.

There have been some other large wins in Ireland. Among them a €130 million win in Co. Down before Christmas and in 2005 €115 million was won by a Co. Limerick woman.



Homophones

Homophones are words that sound the same but have different meanings. For example:

- Bear and bare _____
- Dessert and desert _____
- New and knew _____
- Pain and pane _____
- Bored and board _____
- Heel and heal _____
- Leek and leak _____
- Plaice and place _____
- Grate and great _____
- Vain and vein _____

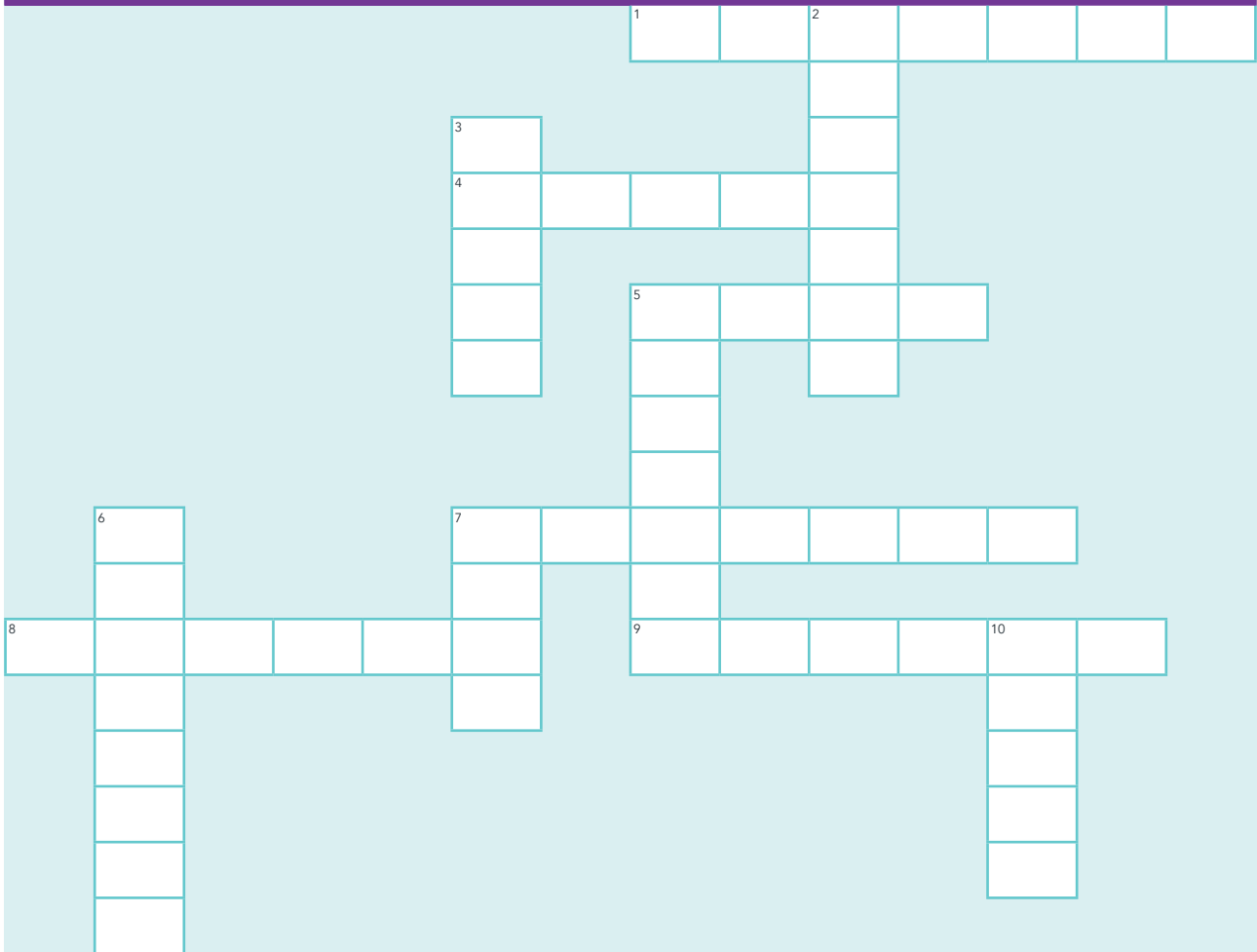


Choose the correct word

Choose the correct homophones from the list to finish these sentences.

1. I like to eat ice cream for _____ .
The Sahara is a big _____ .
2. I _____ her years ago.
I need a _____ pair of shoes.
3. I have a bad _____ in my head.
He put in a new _____ of glass.
4. I hope my cut will _____ soon.
The _____ of my foot is sore.
5. There is a _____ in the water pipe.
A _____ is a vegetable.
6. _____ is a type of fish.
I know a good _____ to hide.
7. Put the poster up on the notice _____ .
I'm _____ , I have nothing to do.
8. That's _____ news!
I like to _____ cheese on my toast.
9. On the beach I walk on my _____ feet.
A _____ is an animal.

Crossword for St Patrick's Day



Across

- 1. Surname of famous Irish/American President, John F_____(7)
- 4. This sport has the only international team made up of players from the north and south of Ireland (5)
- 5. Largest county in Ireland (4)
- 7. Longest river in Ireland (7)
- 8. One of these is held in every city in the world on St Patrick's day (6)
- 9. Green, white and _____ Colours of the Irish Flag (6)

Down

- 2. The biggest St Patrick's Day parade in the world takes place here every year (3, 4)
- 3. _____ Park Irish national sports stadium (5)
- 5. The river in this US city is turned green on St Patrick's Day (7)
- 6. A bowl of this is given to the US President on Patrick's Day (8)
- 7. Irish _____, a traditional Irish dinner (4)
- 10. Everything turns this colour on St Patrick's Day (5)



In 2011, Vicky Phelan like thousands of other women went for a smear test and was told that it was clear. However, three years later, mother of two Vicky was diagnosed with cervical cancer for which she underwent treatment. Sadly in 2017 the cancer returned. Vicky was given the terrible news that it was not curable and that she would probably have a year at most to live.



Vicky Phelan © RollingNews.ie / Alamy Stock Photo

While awaiting a scan in the hospital Vicky was reading through her chart when she discovered a letter saying that she had been given wrong results for her smear test in 2011. In fact, cancer cells were present in her body since then. She had not been informed of this. Last month Vicky was awarded €2.5 million in a case she brought against the American laboratory that reads smear tests. A medical expert said during the case that had Vicky been given the correct results in 2011 she would have had a 95% chance of a complete recovery. Vicky was asked to sign a confidentiality agreement to prevent her from speaking publicly about what had happened. She refused to do this and continued her fight for all information to be out in the open. It was then discovered that several hundred women like Vicky had been given wrong results in

their smear tests. Many of them had never been informed of this. It is now known that at least 17 of these women have since died.

Vicky, having done a lot of research into her illness, found a new treatment drug which is being trialled in America. With the help of her family, friends and work colleagues who fundraised on her behalf, she raised enough money to go on this new treatment. Vicky Phelan through her courage and determination has highlighted a serious injustice done to her and many hundreds of women here in Ireland. She is a fighter but also a mother to two young children. She also worked in adult literacy in Waterford Institute of Technology. There she worked with NALA on many projects. We wish her the very best.

Ed Sheeran concerts

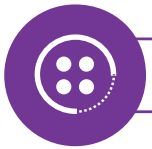
English singer and songwriter Ed Sheeran is performing in nine sell out concerts all over Ireland during the month of May. Tickets first went on sale a year ago and were sold out in a few hours. 400,000 people in Ireland will attend his shows. The 27-year-old red haired Ed whose grandparents come from Ireland is considered to be Irish at this stage. He has sold more records in Ireland than in any other part of the world. Among his hits have been some Irish traditional sounding songs such as "Galway Girl".

Getting ready for GDPR

NALA is taking a number of steps to ensure we comply with new data protection laws. The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) will be introduced on 25 May 2018. It will replace current data protection laws in

the European Union. The new law will give individuals greater control over their data by setting out additional and more clearly defined rights for individuals whose personal data is collected and processed by organisations. The GDPR imposes increased obligations on organisations that collect this data.

What is personal data? Personal data is any information that can identify an individual person. This includes a name, an ID number, location data (for example, location data collected by a mobile phone) or a postal address, online browsing history, images or anything relating to the physical, physiological, genetic, mental, economic, cultural or social identity of a person.



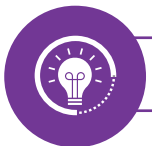
Maths

Orla is going on a journey. When she has driven 40 km she will have $\frac{1}{4}$ of her journey completed. She travels at a speed of 80 km per hour and takes a break of half an hour during the journey. She will leave home at 10 am.

1. How many kilometers in total is her journey?

2. Including her break, how long should it take her to complete the journey?

3. What time should she arrive?



The answers are on page 64.



Rules for present and past tense

Rules for adding "ing" and "ed" to words.

You add "ing" to a word to put it in the present tense, happening now. For example "I am jumping on a trampoline now". Add "ed" to a word to put it in the past tense. "Yesterday I jumped on the trampoline".

For most words you just add "ing" or "ed" without making any change to the original word. For example: "walk" becomes walking and walked and work becomes working and worked.

Words ending in "y": Many words ending in "y" follow the rule above. For example: play becomes playing and play becomes played and enjoy becomes enjoying and enjoyed. For "y" words that have a consonant before the "y", there is a different rule. You change the "y" to "i" before adding "ed". For example cry becomes cried and marry becomes married.

Words ending in "e": You drop the "e" before adding "ing" or "ed". For example, bake becomes baking and baked, like becomes liking and liked and save becomes saving and saved.

Words ending in "ie": You drop the "e" before adding "ed" and change the "ie" to "y". For example die becomes died and dying, lie becomes lied and lying and tie becomes tied and tying.

Words where the last three letters are a consonant-vowel-consonant: For many words, not all, where the last three letters are a consonant-vowel-consonant, you double the last consonant before adding "ing" and "ed". For example shop becomes shopping and shopped, chat becomes chatting and chatted.

Plurals	Collective nouns																																																	
<p>Add "ing" and "ed" to the following words:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;"></th> <th style="width: 25%; text-align: center; color: #008080;">ing</th> <th style="width: 25%; text-align: center; color: #008080;">ed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>■ cry</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>■ play</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>■ hate</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>■ care</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>■ lie</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>■ skip</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>■ live</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>■ plan</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>■ love</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>■ use</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>■ shop</td><td></td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>■ rely</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>		ing	ed	■ cry			■ play			■ hate			■ care			■ lie			■ skip			■ live			■ plan			■ love			■ use			■ shop			■ rely			<p>Collective nouns are the word used to represent a group of people, animals or things. For example: A herd of elephants</p> <p>Choose the right collective nouns from the list below and place it in the sentence below.</p> <p>List: pack, punnet, string, swarm, chest, bunch, deck, choir, flock, gaggle</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tbody> <tr><td>■ A _____ of bees</td></tr> <tr><td>■ A _____ of hounds</td></tr> <tr><td>■ A _____ of flowers</td></tr> <tr><td>■ A _____ of sheep</td></tr> <tr><td>■ A _____ of geese</td></tr> <tr><td>■ A _____ of drawers</td></tr> <tr><td>■ A _____ of singers</td></tr> <tr><td>■ A _____ of pearls</td></tr> <tr><td>■ A _____ of strawberries</td></tr> <tr><td>■ A _____ of cards</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	■ A _____ of bees	■ A _____ of hounds	■ A _____ of flowers	■ A _____ of sheep	■ A _____ of geese	■ A _____ of drawers	■ A _____ of singers	■ A _____ of pearls	■ A _____ of strawberries	■ A _____ of cards
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999, the phone number used in many countries in an emergency to call the ambulance, fire service, police or coastguard, is 80 years old this year.



On 30 June 1937, the first ever 999 call was made in London. The emergency phone number was set up following a fire in London which killed five women. At the time people claimed that when they rang for a fire engine their calls were not answered quickly enough by the telephone operators. So, it was then decided that a special phone number would be used to alert the operators that it was an emergency. The service was rolled out in Glasgow the following year. It is used today all across Britain, Ireland and many other countries.

It is the world's oldest emergency phone service. In Britain alone, operators respond to 30 million 999 calls a year. Here in Ireland the number 112 is also used as an emergency number, as well as 999. The number 911 is used in Canada and the United States of America (USA).

Farm accidents

The majority of deaths in the workplace now take place on farms. The Health and Safety Authority (HSA) have said that already in 2017, 16 people have died here in Ireland due to farming accidents. As many as half of farm accidents are caused by tractors and machinery with animals being the next biggest cause. The HSA say that children and people over 65 are the people most at risk.

This is one of the busiest times of year on farms with hay and silage being made. It is also the time that children are on their summer holidays. The HSA is asking farmers to make sure that children's play areas are kept safely away from large animals, tractors and all machinery.

ESB is 90 years old

The Electricity Supply Board (ESB) was set up 90 years ago in 1927.

Their first big task was the building of a power station in Ardnacrusha in County Clare. Here, water was taken from the River Shannon and used to generate electricity. Work began in 1925 and it took five years to build. At that time it was the biggest water power station of its kind in the world.

The roll out of electricity to rural Ireland began in 1945 and took more than 20 years to complete. It was a huge task as thousands of poles and cables and electricity pylons had to be built all over Ireland. By 1965, 80% of Irish households had electricity.

The day when electricity was being turned on was a big day in every parish. Many

places created a festival around it with the local parish priest having the honour of turning on the first lights! There are many stories told of how people were amazed by being able to have light by just turning a switch. Some people didn't trust it and were afraid to change from candles and open fires to light bulbs and electric cookers. The ESB employed staff to travel from house to house to show people how to use electric cookers, fridges, TVs and washing machines.

For many years, water from the River Shannon was used to generate most of the electricity used in Ireland. Coal, which was imported, was also used and later peat (turf) burning power stations were opened in the midlands. Today, coal, water and peat provide less than a quarter of our electricity. Almost half of the electricity we use is generated by gas, with wind farms generating almost 20 percent of our electricity.



Maths

- Mary's pay is twice as much as John's. Anne's pay is $\frac{2}{3}$ of Mary's. If Mary's pay is €630,
 - What is John's pay?

 - What is Anne's pay?

- If it takes me 30 minutes to drive 40 km,
 - How far will I travel in 15 minutes?

 - How far will I travel in 1 hour?

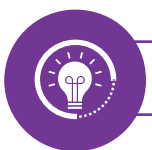
- In Murray's, I can buy shoes for €55 with 10% off in the sale. In Ryan's, I can buy the same shoes for €60 with 25% off in the sale. Which shop is cheaper?



Choose the correct words

Choose the correct word from the list of homophones on page 42.

- _____ the door.
I like to buy nice _____.
- I like the _____ from roses.
She _____ me a nice card in the post.
- Put the _____ in the litter bin.
Put a belt around your _____.
- Press the _____ to stop the car.
I need to take a _____.
- Did you _____ the good news?
Stand over _____.
- I like to _____ up with my friends.
I don't eat red _____.



The answers are on page 64.

Homophones - Words that sound the same but have a different spelling and meaning

buy / by / bye	hear / here	pair / pear	knot / not	dear / deer
write / right	would / wood	break / brake	hair / hare	know / no
wait / weight	knot / not	meet / meat	week / weak	waste / waist
one / won	plane / plain	close / clothes	sent / scent / cent	flower / flour



Errors

There are 27 errors below. Try to spot them and replace them with the correct homophones.

Deer Sarah,

I had to right and let you no that I one a holiday, too weaks in Spain! I can't weight!

We are going in August. I'm not looking forward to going on the plain. I feel week thinking about it but it will be a lovely brake.

I need to by lots of new close as I have lost a stone in wait since you last saw me. I also have to bye a pear of flip flops.

I am having my hare done in town on Tuesday. Wood you like to meat for a chat? I have to go to the flour and garden centre and there's a café write next door so we could meat hear at 1pm. If you are knot able to meat it's ok.

Right soon and let me no.

Buy for now,

Bernie



St Patrick's Day, 17 March, when everyone claims to be a little bit Irish is now seen as the world's most celebrated national holiday. Apart from St Patrick's Day what are the symbols that people all over the world most associate with Ireland?

The Irish flag



The Irish flag also known as the Tricolour, was first flown in Waterford in 1848 by a young Irish rebel, Thomas Francis Meagher. The green of the flag represents the Catholics of Ireland, the orange is for the Irish Protestants and the white as a symbol of peace between the two. Meagher was a leader of a group called the Young Irelanders who held a rising during the famine. Soon after he was arrested and sent to Tasmania, an island off the coast of Australia. At the time, prisoners were sent to faraway places such as Australia and America, never to return or see their families again.

The tricolour was not seen again until it was raised above the GPO during the 1916 Rising. It became the official Irish flag in 1937. Before this, the flag was green with a gold harp in the middle.

As for Thomas Meagher, he escaped to America, by working on board an American ship. He joined the Irish brigade of the American Army where he was made a general. He fought in the American Civil War. He never returned to Ireland. When US President John F. Kennedy visited Ireland in 1963, he presented the flag of the brigade Meagher led during the American Civil War, to the Irish people. Today it hangs in Dáil Éireann.

The shamrock



It is said that in the 5th century Saint Patrick used the shamrock with its three leaves on one stem to explain to the Irish people the Christian belief of three persons in one God.

The shamrock is easily the symbol that people immediately associate with Ireland. Many organisations such as Aer Lingus and Irish Rugby Football Union have a shamrock in their emblem. In years gone by, Irish people would post shamrock to relations in other parts of the world for St Patrick's Day so they could wear it on the day.

It has become the tradition every year for the Taoiseach to visit the White House and present the US president with a Waterford Crystal bowl of shamrock.

The Irish harp



Although not as popular as the shamrock, the Irish harp is in fact the official emblem of Ireland. It is printed on all government official documents, on Irish coins and on Irish passports. Many Irish businesses such as Guinness and Ryanair use it as a logo. The Irish harp has a long tradition in Irish culture. Over 1,000 years ago all wealthy families had their own personal harpist to entertain them. It is said that the once High King of Ireland, Brian Ború, who was killed in 1014, played the harp. In 1531, the then King of England, Henry VIII declared himself King of Ireland. He loved the sound of the harp so much that he made it the emblem of Ireland and stamped it on all coins where it has remained since.

"That's interesting!"

The Claddagh Ring



This is a ring with the design of a heart with a crown held by two hands. It is said the heart represents love, the hands friendship and the crown is for loyalty. Tradition says that if the ring is worn on the right hand with the heart facing out, then the wearer is looking for love. However, if it is worn with the heart facing in, then the wearer has already found love.

It is believed that the ring was first made by a man from the Claddagh area of Galway, Richard Joyce who left both Galway and the girl he loved to go abroad to make his fortune. However, the ship he sailed in was taken by pirates and Joyce was sold into slavery to a goldsmith in Africa. Here he learned the craft himself and when he was freed, he returned to Galway, married his sweetheart and made her a ring that we now know as the Claddagh Ring.



Fill in the names

Fill in the name of these popular Irish brands.

- G _____ rashers
- T _____ crisps
- Clo _____ black pudding
- Ba _____ Tea
- J _____ cream crackers
- Br _____ bread
- Bally _____ natural water
- Bally _____ relish
- Av _____ milk
- K _____ butter
- Fl _____ porridge



Quiz:

Fill in the names of these famous Irish people.

1. Ireland's first woman President:

2. Lead singer with U2:

3. Irish female runner who won an Olympic medal in 2000:

4. Former presenter of the Late Late Show for 30 years:

5. Famous Irish poet who died in 1939:

6. Former One Direction member and singer:

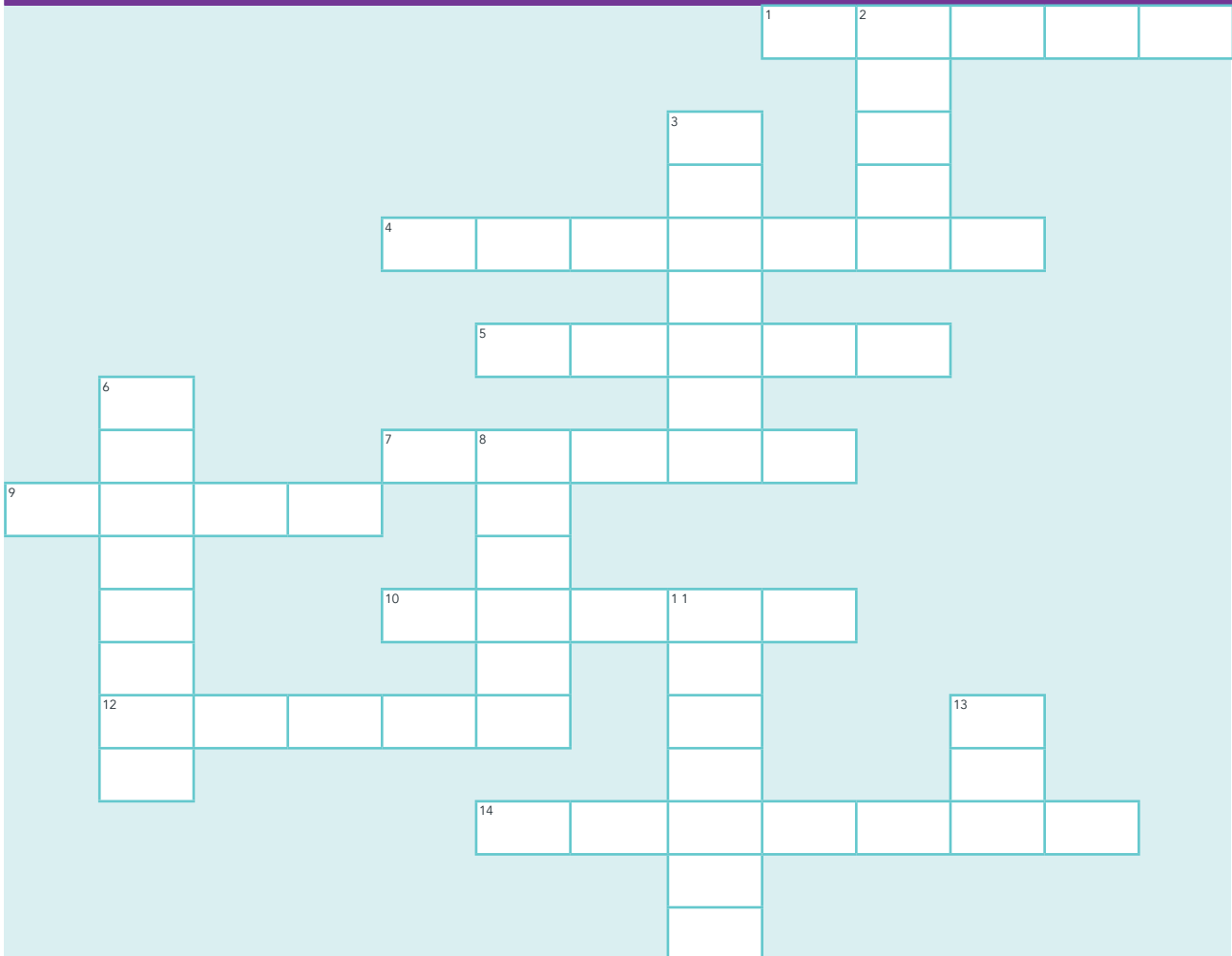
7. Founder of the Chernobyl Children's charity:

8. Kilkenny hurling manager:

9. He won the Eurovision three times:



Crossword



Across

- 1. St Stephen's _____ Park is at the top of Grafton Street in Dublin (5)
- 4. Our national game (7)
- 5. Cliffs of Moher are in this county (5)
- 7. Smallest county in Ireland (5)
- 9. Musical instrument that is printed on all Irish coins (4)
- 10. Airport in Co. Mayo (5)
- 12. _____ Park, our national GAA stadium in Dublin (5)
- 14. Airport and river in Ireland (7)

Down

- 2. Saoirse _____ successful Irish actress (5)
- 3. The Titanic Centre is in this city (7)
- 6. A small leaf worn by people on St Patrick's Day (8)
- 8. Oráiste in English (6)
- 11. Bacon and _____, popular Irish dinner (7)
- 13. Largest post office in Ireland, in O'Connell street Dublin (3)

The answers to the clues are all connected to Ireland.

20 July this year marked the 50th anniversary of the first humans to walk on the moon. On 16 July 1969, the American Space Centre, NASA, sent a space ship known as Apollo 11 into space carrying three astronauts, Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins.

At 9.32am the space ship was fired into space from the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida and after just 12 minutes was already circling the earth. It took another three days for the ship to reach the moon. The space ship was made up of three parts and at this point one part known as the Eagle split from the rest of the space ship and headed for the surface of the moon carrying Armstrong and Aldrin. The third man Collins remained on the ship and continued to circle space.

As the two men prepared to land a computer problem occurred which meant that Armstrong and Aldrin had to land the vessel manually without the assistance of the computer. This caused a delay. Dust from the moon's surface made it difficult to see and rocks and large cracks on the surface meant it was difficult to find a flat area to land. When they landed, they had only enough fuel left to have stayed flying for another 30 seconds. Armstrong immediately sent radio contact to the space centre with the words which have now become famous "the Eagle has landed".

A few minutes later at 4.17 pm on 20 July 1969 Neil Armstrong became the first person to walk on the moon's surface. His famous words were heard by 600 million people all over the world who were watching this historic event live on TV, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

He was joined by Buzz Aldrin shortly after and both men spent two and a half hours taking photographs and samples from the moon's surface. They placed an American flag and a plaque on the moon which said "Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the moon. July 1969 A.D. We came in peace for all mankind." The US president of the time Richard Nixon then spoke to the men by radio. He later said it was the most historic phone call ever made from the White House.

The two men then returned safely to the space ship and to their fellow astronaut Michael Collins. A control switch in the vessel had broken off but the men used a pen to replace the switch which luckily worked. On 24 July they returned safely to earth and landed in the sea near Hawaii after a journey of 953,054 miles over eight days.



Apollo 11 Crew "The Apollo 11 Prime Crew" by Kevin M. Gill is licensed under CC BY 2.0

All three men were kept in isolation for three weeks after returning. Here they were watched closely for any infection or illness they might have picked up in space. For the months that followed the three men went on a world tour where they were greeted as heroes.

Their mission to walk on the moon ended what had become known as the Space Race between America and Russia. This began

in 1957 when Russia sent a dog into space followed in 1961 by becoming the first to send a human into space. Not to be outdone by the Russians, in 1961 President John F. Kennedy made a promise that America would “land a man on the moon, and return him safely to the Earth”, before the 1960s ended. Sadly, President Kennedy who was shot in 1963 never got to see this happen.

Neil Armstrong died in 2012 but Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins at 89 are both alive. The men and their families were invited to the White House in July by President Trump to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the first ever moon landing.

There, Their and They're	Two, Too and To
<p>There is used in 2 ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To say where something is placed Example: The bank is over there. Used with 'is' and 'are'. For example: There is a hole in my shoe. There are seven days in a week. <p>Their is used for something that belongs to them. For example: They parked their car outside. Their house is lovely.</p> <p>They're is short for 'they are'. For example: They're coming to see us. I know them, but they're not my friends.</p>	<p>Two is how you write the number 2. For example: I am going away for two nights.</p> <p>Too is used in 2 ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instead of also, or as well. For example: I like apples and I like grapes too. Mary's coming to the cinema too. To say there's more than enough of something. For example: I was too tired so I didn't go out. That coat is too expensive. <p>To is used in 2 ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before an action word. For example: I love to sing. To show direction. For example: I am going to a party in town. She gave a card to her friend.

Section title: Traditions and history

Fill in the blanks using **two, too** and **to**.

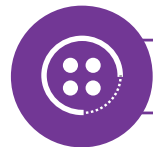
I have _____ kittens, they were given _____ me as a present. They have cost me quite a bit of money so far. I had _____ buy _____ feeding dishes and _____ beds and a cat carrier _____. I took them _____ the vet _____. They have _____ be fed at least _____ times a day. I have _____ make sure they have clean water _____. They have to be kept indoors for a while as it is still _____ cold outside. My dog is not _____ happy with them. They like _____ sleep in his bed, but he is not _____ happy with that and chases them back _____ their own beds.



There, Their or They're

Fill in the blanks using **there, their** or **they're**.

1. Please sit over _____.
2. _____ car is parked outside.
3. Ask if _____ coming over for dinner.
4. _____ is a circus in town.
5. _____ very expensive.
6. They asked me to look after _____ dog.
7. _____ great friends.
8. _____ is a mouse in the house.
9. _____ building a new house.
10. Joe is always _____ on time.
11. Paul is _____ eldest.
12. How many of you are _____.



Maths

1. I have a car loan of €10,000 which I will pay back over 4 years. I will have to pay €140 in interest for every year also.

If I pay a set amount every month over the 4 years, how much will I have to pay each month to have the loan paid in 4 years?

2. Ann earns twice what Tom earns. Joe earns half of what Tom earns.
 - a. If Joe earns €9.80 per hour, what does Ann and Tom earn per hour?
 - b. If they each work 20 hours per week what is each one's weekly total earnings?



One hundred years ago, one of the most important events in the history of air travel took place outside the town of Clifden in Connemara. On the morning of 15 June 1919, the first ever airplane to fly non-stop across the Atlantic Ocean landed in a bog a few miles south of Clifden. The plane, which had been used as a bomber plane during World War I, was flown by two British men who had been army pilots in the war, John Alcock and Arthur Brown.



John Alcock and Arthur Brown "15th June 1919 - Alcock & Brown fly across the Atlantic" by Bradford Timeline is licensed under CC BY-NC 2.0

The Daily Mail newspaper had put up a prize of £10,000 for the first pilots to fly nonstop across the Atlantic Ocean from America to Europe. Several attempts had been made already but with no success.

Alcock and Brown left Newfoundland in Canada on 14 June in the hope of winning the prize money. The flight took them 16 hours. It was nothing short of a miracle that the two men managed to survive the journey. On taking off they narrowly missed crashing into the tops of trees near the runway.

After just a short time in the air they ran into a snow storm which froze parts of the engine and cut off the small amount of heat they had on the plane. They lost all radio contact with the outside world and could not even talk to each other as the

noise of the engine was so loud. Thick fog and heavy rain followed and on at least two occasions they almost crashed into the ocean as they could barely see where they were going. Their first sighting of land was the Aran Islands off the west coast of Ireland and as they approached the mainland, they prepared to land on what they believed to be a green field. However, the field turned out to be a bog into which the plane nose-dived and partly sank on landing. The two men were unhurt and immediately caused great excitement in Connemara and the surrounding county. It wasn't long until word of their achievement was known all over the world.

On returning to their native England a few days later they were presented with their prize money. Sadly, later that year John Alcock was killed when a plane he was flying crashed into a tree.



Vickers Vimy Canada in 1919 "Vickers Vimy taking off from Lester's Field" by kitchener.lord is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0

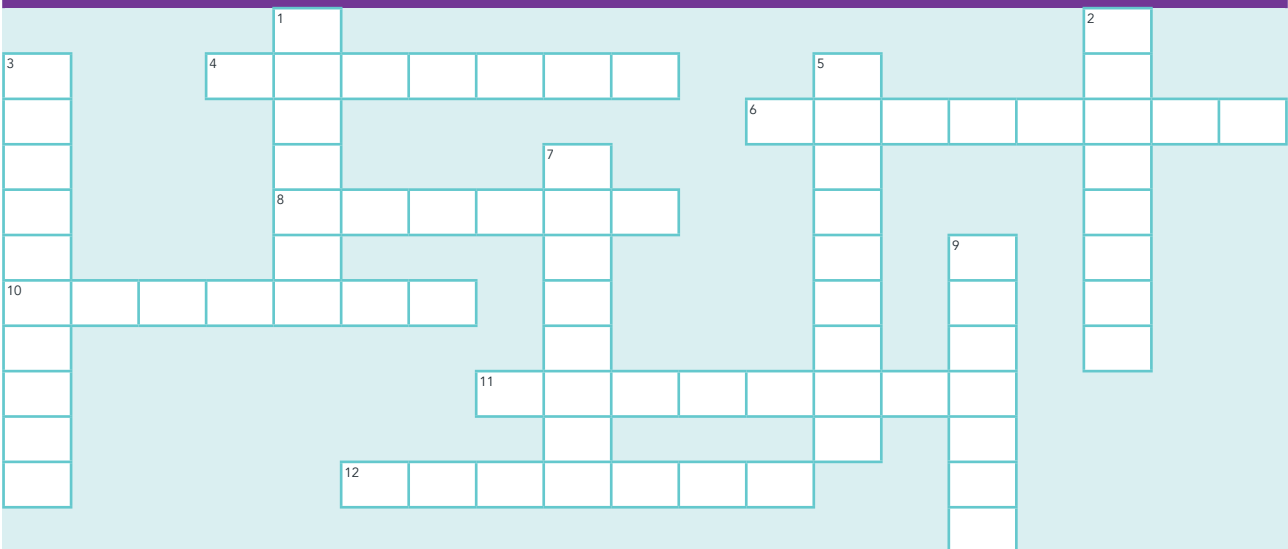
Ceremonies were held in Clifden in June to mark the 100 anniversary of the Alcock and Brown flight. A statue of the two men which stands in Heathrow Airport was brought over to Clifden for the celebrations. An Post also brought out a new stamp showing a picture of their plane, to mark the occasion.

Stamp collecting

Stamp collecting, which is known as philately (fill a telly), is a hobby shared by thousands of people all over the world. There are all kinds of reasons why people collect stamps. Some have an interest in history, or art, others just enjoy the lovely variety of stamps and collect them to pass on to future generations.

Here in Ireland, An Post issue as many as 12 new stamps every year. These stamps usually mark a special event, a famous person or an achievement. In 2019, already they have issued stamps to commemorate Alcock and Brown, Ireland's greatest folk songs and singers, the Irish Coast Guard and a stamp to raise awareness about organ donation. The General Post Office (GPO) in Dublin has a special stamp collectors' section. In it you will find all the information you need to begin stamp collecting.

Crossword



Across

- 4. In America they call it a cookie (7)
- 6. Made with two slices of bread (8)
- 8. You are his uncle, he is your _____ (6)
- 10. Where you live (7)
- 11. Your female child (8)
- 12. This has 2 wheels (7)

Down

- 1. When you pass your driving test you get this (7)
- 2. This is used for cutting (8)
- 3. This card is sent asking you to come to a special event (10)
- 5. The one you like best is your _____ (9)
- 7. Valentine's Day falls in this month (8)
- 9. A place to borrow books (7)

The answers are all words from the list on page 51.



Commonly misspelled words

accident	beautiful	business	enough	invitation	nephew
across	bicycle	cough	exciting	library	niece
address	biscuit	daughter	favourite	licence	sandwich
autumn	believe	embarrass	February	neighbour	scissors



Choose a word

From the list above choose the word that has the same meaning as the following.

1. A person who lives next door

2. Collection of books

3. Shame

4. Accept as true

5. Lovely

6. Crash

7. Season after Summer

8. Cookie

9. Thrilling

10. Your sister's daughter

11. Company

12. To clear your throat



Numbers Quiz

1. How many months have just 30 days?

2. How many make a dozen?

3. How many years in a decade?

4. How many years in a century?

5. How many hours in 3 days?

6. How many minutes in 4 hours?

7. In GAA a goal is equal to how many points?

8. How many counties in Connacht?



The answers are on page 65.

"That's interesting!"

On 11 November remembrance ceremonies were held across the world to mark the 100th anniversary of the end of World War I (WWI). In 1918, at 11 minutes past 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month (November) a cease fire was called. An agreement known as an Armistice was signed in France ending four years of war. The war was fought between two sides: the Allied forces and the Central Powers. The Allied forces included Britain, France, Belgium, Russia and later Italy. The Central Powers led by Germany, included Austria, Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey. America joined the war in 1915 on the side of the Allied Forces after a German submarine sank a British passenger ship, the Lusitania. It sank off the coast of Ireland killing 1,200 passengers many of them American.

Armies from both sides dug thousands of miles of ditches known as trenches, which faced each other across the middle of Europe. This was known as the Western Front. Soldiers lived and slept in these trenches until ordered to move forward and fight back the enemy side. Conditions in the trenches were terrible with dead bodies, mud, rain and cold. Rats and lice were a big problem and caused many diseases.

A famous event happened on Christmas Day in 1914 when soldiers from both sides stopped fighting for a few hours. They met in the area between the trenches, known as "No Man's Land", they shared cigarettes, sang Christmas carols and a few played a game of football. Sadly, this was short lived as the fighting began again the next day. 65 million soldiers fought in the war, 10 million died and 21 million were injured. Many of

these were as young as 16 or 17. In the countryside close to the western front the red poppy flower could be seen growing wild in the fields. When the war ended the poppy became a symbol of remembrance of those who died in battles here during World War I.



Christmas truce



It is believed that more than 200,000 Irish men fought in World War I as members of the British Army. 36,000 of them lost their lives.

Ceremonies were held in many counties to remember them. President Higgins led the largest of these which was held in Glasnevin Cemetery in Dublin. Members of the Irish army as well as relatives of those who were being remembered, also attended. By the time the war ended most of Europe was left in ruins. Millions of people had been killed or badly injured. Millions more faced a future without loved ones. So terrible were its effects that it was believed that World War I would be the "war to end all wars". However, this was not to be the case as less than 21 years later World War II began.



In the trenches. Exhibition of war photographs / taken by Capt. F. Hurley, August 1917- August 1918 (no.22). From the collections of the Mitchell Library, State Library of New South Wales www.sl.nsw.gov.au

President Michael D. is re-elected

Michael D. Higgins, along with his wife Sabina, is now beginning another seven years as president of the country after winning 56% of votes in the recent election. Mr. Higgins, who is 77, has been involved in politics for almost 50 years.

A member of the labour party until he became president he has served as a senator, a TD and a government minister. He was also Mayor of Galway. He was a lecturer in Galway university for many years as well as a writer and a poet. At his inauguration in Dublin Castle he spoke about his vision for Ireland where every person is treated equally and with respect regardless of belief or difference.



Maths

- Amy is buying a new washing machine. She is trying to find the best value. In Electric World she can buy one for €390 with 10% discount if she buys before end of month. In Kitchen Deals they have the same machine for €450. They have a sale with 20% off everything. Both shops offer free delivery. An online store has the same machine for €320 but there is a delivery charge of €50.

a. How much will she pay in Electric World?

b. How much will she pay in Kitchen Deals?

c. What will be the total cost of buying online?

- Tom won a sum of money in a local lotto draw. He bought a new TV for €450, paid off a loan of €2,000 and put €1,500 aside for a family holiday later. The rest of his winnings he divided among his children. Each of his 3 children got €450 each.

a. What was the total amount Tom won in the lotto?

- I can buy 6 chocolate Santas for €9.60. How much will I pay for 10 chocolate Santas?



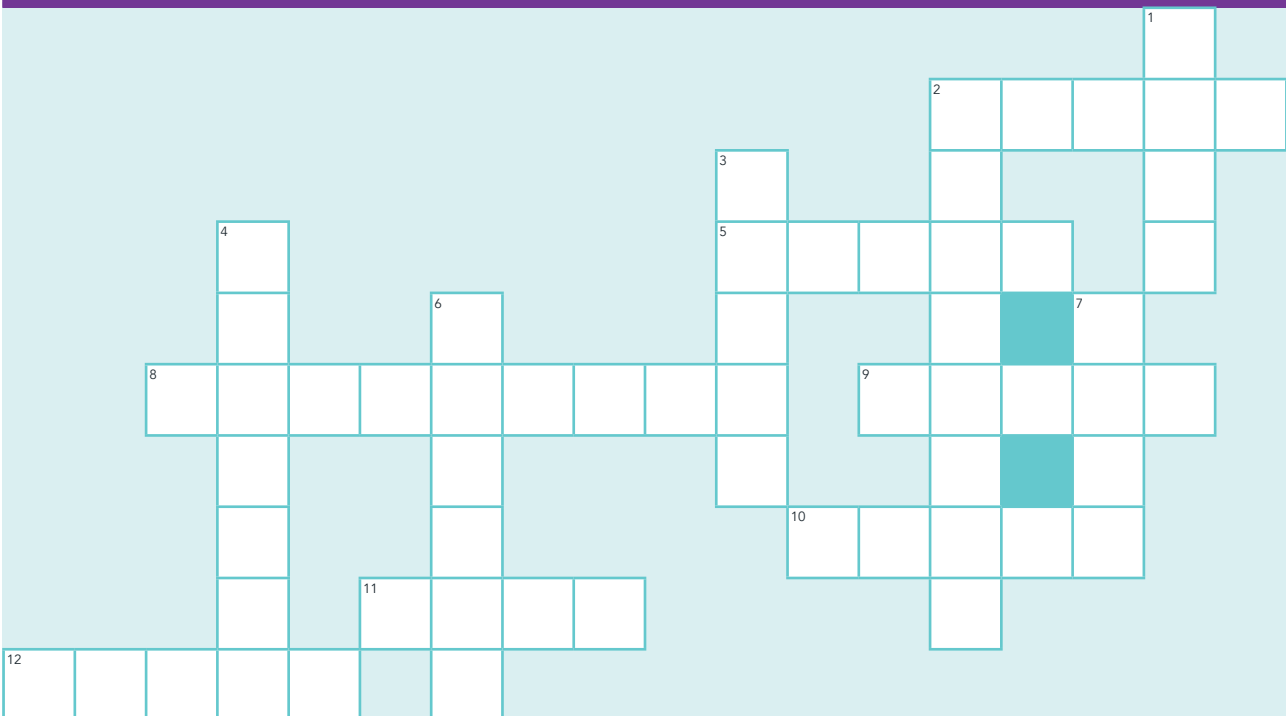
If you are stuck, ring NALA on Freephone 1 800 20 20 65.
The answers are on page 65.

“That’s interesting!”

Words ending in **ick** or **ic**

Words of one syllable, or beat that end in ick						Words with two or more syllables, or beats that end in ic				
kick	pick	wick	quick	flick	thick	attic	fantastic	mechanic	panic	plastic
lick	sick	brick	click	stick	trick	electric	garlic	music	picnic	public

Crossword



Across

- 2. We like to listen to this (5)
- 5. Opposite of thin (5)
- 8. Another word for amazing (9)
- 9. Stay calm and don't _____ (5)
- 10. A magician does this (5)
- 11. Another word for to choose (4)
- 12. Another word for fast (5)

Down

- 1. Another word for being ill (4)
- 2. A person who can fix your car (8)
- 3. A walking _____ (5)
- 4. Today most things are made from this material (7)
- 6. A vegetable (6)
- 7. What you do with a football (4)

The answers are all words from the list above.



We prepare for Christmas by buying presents, decorating our homes with indoor and outdoor lights and planning our Christmas Day dinner menu. Have you ever thought what Christmas was like for our parents or grandparents? Before we had TVs, phones or computers, life was very different.

Kitty who is aged 85 years, grew up on a farm in west Clare. Her memories of Christmas are of a much more simple but beautiful time.

“We didn’t put up a tree for Christmas, nobody did in fact. We would be sent out the fields to pick berry holly and ivy to decorate the house. A sprig of holly was then put on the mantelpiece over the fire and behind all the holy pictures. We put a candle on every window and these were lit on Christmas Eve. It was the tradition that the youngest member of the family always lit the candles on this night.”

Kitty recalls that preparations for Christmas started as early as October, the Christmas cake and pudding were baked and then stored in tins until Christmas Day. In farming areas, a pig was killed in October so that ham and bacon would be ready by December. Geese were kept and fattened from August until December when they would be sold at the market for Christmas day dinner. Roast goose and ham were the traditional Christmas dinner in Ireland at that time. Turkey only became popular in recent years.

There were no supermarkets and all shopping was done at local village shops that usually sold everything from tea and sugar to tins of paint. A big part of the preparation was known as “bringing home the Christmas”. This was the name given to the large

shopping done just before Christmas. What was special about this was that along with the usual food items, treats such as sweets and new clothes were also bought at this time.



Kitty recalls that there was great excitement in her house on this day every year.

It was the tradition then that the local shopkeeper would give each customer a free gift known as the “Christmas Box” as a thank you for their business during the year. Kitty remembers that this was eagerly looked forward to as the box would contain luxuries such as biscuits or a bottle of whiskey.

Kitty remembers the whole family would attend mass either at midnight on Christmas Eve or at dawn at 6am on Christmas morning. Then it was home to see what Santa Claus had brought. Santa’s gift list however was a lot different than today. Kitty remembers that children received gifts such as books, footballs, coins and chocolate.

“One year I received an orange and a banana from Santa. I was so excited as I had never seen either fruit before, I thought they were the nicest things I had ever tasted” Kitty recalls.



Televisions were unheard of in Ireland then and only a couple of homes had radios so on Christmas night neighbours would visit each other to play cards, chat or play music.

On St. Stephen's Day children and some adults dressed up in disguise and went from house to house singing and playing music in return for money or treats. This was known as "hunting the Wren". It is a tradition that still goes on in parts of Ireland today.

Kitty is in good health living on her own and still driving. Her brother, sister and parents have all passed on so memories of her Christmas childhood although special are a little bit sad. She has seen many changes over the years but some traditions are still the same. She still puts a candle in the window (electric now), goes to mass on Christmas Eve. She insists on cooking her own Christmas Day roast goose and will have her Euro coins ready for anyone who might call on St. Stephen's day, hunting the Wren.

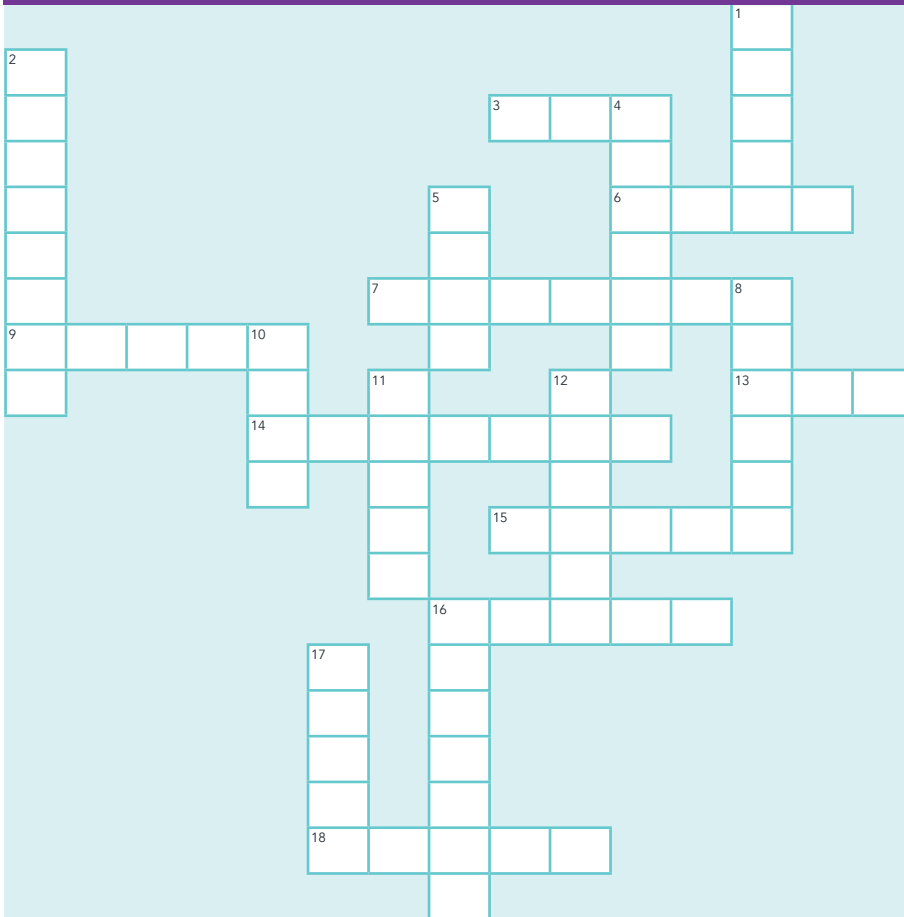


Make new words

See how many words you can make using the letters in the box. You must use the letter a in each word you make. For example: back and care.

b	c	e
r	a	n
k	g	t

Crossword



Across

- 3. Colour of Rudolph's nose (3)
- 6. These insects make honey (4)
- 7. Plum _____, Christmas dessert (7)
- 9. Donald J _____ US President (5)
- 13. _____ Varadkar. First name of Taoiseach in 2017 (3)
- 14. Frosty the _____ (7)
- 15. _____ Magee, commentator who died this year (5)
- 16. In what county would you find Shannon Airport? (5)
- 18. Silent _____, popular Christmas song (5)

Down

- 1. An _____ a day keeps the doctor away (5)
- 2. RTE TV drama set in Dublin (4, 4)
- 4. 2017 All Ireland Football winners (6)
- 5. In Ireland we call the potato this name (4)
- 8. 2017 All Ireland hurling winners (6)
- 10. An _____, The Irish post office (4)
- 11. _____ Cruise O'Brien (5)
- 12. First name of wife of president Higgins (6)
- 16. Traditional Irish dinner, Bacon and _____ (7)
- 17. Traffic light colour that tells you to go (5)

Some of the answers are about Christmas.



If you are stuck, look it up online or ask a friend.

"That's interesting!"

The 1916 Rising

On Easter Monday, 24 April 1916, Irish men and women, members of the Irish Volunteers, the Irish Citizen Army and the Irish Republican Brotherhood, held an armed rising against British rule in Ireland.

From the start, events did not go well for the Irish. A ship bringing guns in for the Rising was captured by the British, who sank it and arrested the crew. Also, the Rising was due to take place on Easter Sunday but, the day before, Eoin MacNeill, commander of the Irish Volunteers, put a notice in the paper calling it off.



O'Connell Street in ruins Image courtesy of the National Library of Ireland

Despite all the confusion and the shortage of guns, the other commanders decided to go ahead with their plans on Easter Monday. Under the command of seven leaders, the rebel forces took over most of the larger public buildings around Dublin city centre. The General Post Office (GPO) in O'Connell Street was their headquarters and they raised the Irish flag from its roof. On the

front steps of the GPO, Pádraig Pearse read out the Proclamation of the Irish Republic. In this statement, the leaders declared Ireland a free country with equal rights for all. The Proclamation was signed by the seven leaders.



Skeleton of the Metropole Hotel, Dublin. Image courtesy of the National Library of Ireland

Britain was at war with Germany at the time. It was believed the British would have fewer soldiers in Ireland for that reason and that the Rising would catch them off guard. However, Britain sent 16,000 soldiers into Dublin and bombed the GPO and many other buildings. The city centre was in ruins as fires raged through the streets. The Irish soldiers were forced to surrender. The Rising lasted for just five days.

It is said that Pádraig Pearse sent a letter of surrender to the British commander, General Lowe, after seeing three elderly men, who were not involved in the Rising, shot down. He is reported to have said he didn't want any more innocent people killed. More than 500 people were killed and over 2,500 injured in the Rising.

The Irish soldiers were arrested and marched through the streets to prison. Onlookers shouted abuse and threw stones at them.

Many were sent to prison in England and Wales. Within a few days, 15 of the prisoners, who were seen as the ringleaders, were put to death by shooting. As news spread of these executions, the public became angry and there was a lot of anti-British feeling. There was also worldwide sympathy for Ireland and support for its freedom.

The 1916 Rising itself ended badly, but from it came an Irish people who were no longer content with British rule in Ireland. Many of those who took part in the Rising went on to fight in the War of Independence and later played a major role in Irish politics. It was to take another 33 years before Ireland became an independent republic.

For the 100th anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising, events took place in Dublin, and across Ireland, to honour the men and women who fought in the Rising. In particular we think of those who were willing to risk their lives so that one day Ireland would be free. Their courage will forever be remembered.

More facts about the Rising

Pádraig Pearse

Born in Dublin in 1879, Pearse was a teacher, a writer, a barrister and a student of Irish. His love of the Irish language and culture and his interest in education led him to set up a school for boys in Dublin, called Saint Enda's. Here, students were encouraged to speak Irish and have pride in Irish history.

Pearse was a leader in the Irish Volunteers and one of the writers of the Proclamation. He was commander of the group of soldiers

who took over the GPO in 1916.

On 29 April he gave the letter of surrender to the British commander. Pearse was sentenced to death for his part in the Rising and on 3 May was shot in Kilmainham Jail. It is said that he whistled an Irish song as he was led to his death.

James Connolly

Connolly was born in Scotland to Irish parents. His family were very poor so he joined the British Army when he was only 14. He was sent to Ireland and while here he grew very fond of the Irish people. He also met his wife in Dublin. After deserting the British Army, Connolly lived in America for a while and then returned to Ireland.

He was very interested in the rights of workers. In 1912, along with Jim Larkin, he set up the Irish Labour Party. Both men organised the first big strike of workers in Dublin in 1913. Connolly set up the Irish Citizen Army in 1913, which went on to take part in the Rising. Connolly was one of the writers of the Proclamation.

After the surrender he was sentenced to death and was shot on 12 May 1916. As he was unable to stand due to his injuries, he was tied to a chair in front of the firing squad.

Cumann na mBan

Early in 1914 a group of women held a meeting in Dublin and set up Cumann na mBan as the women's wing of the Irish Volunteers. During the Rising many of its members fought alongside the men. Others looked after the wounded, brought food and carried messages. After the surrender, over 70 women were taken to prison.

After the Rising, many members continued to fight for Irish freedom. The best known was Countess Constance Markievicz, who was elected three times as a TD. She became Minister for Labour, one of the first women in Europe to become a minister. She died in 1927 at the age of 59 years.

The Proclamation

This was a statement declaring Ireland an independent country with equal rights for all its people, men and women. Women are mentioned a few times in the Proclamation, which was unusual for the time.

Women in most countries at this time could not vote, were paid less than men and were not treated as equal.



Countess Constance Markievicz Image courtesy of the National Library of Ireland

The Proclamation was printed the night before the Rising. On Easter Monday Pearse read it out from the steps of the GPO. The seven men who signed the Proclamation were: Thomas J. Clarke, Seán Mac Diarmada, Pádraig Pearse, James Connolly, Thomas MacDonagh, Eamonn Ceannt and Joseph Plunkett. All seven men were sentenced to death and were shot by firing squad in Kilmainham Jail.



Quiz

1. On what day and date did the Rising start?

2. Name the organisations involved in the Rising.

3. What two things happened before the Rising that made it difficult?

4. Who read out the Proclamation?

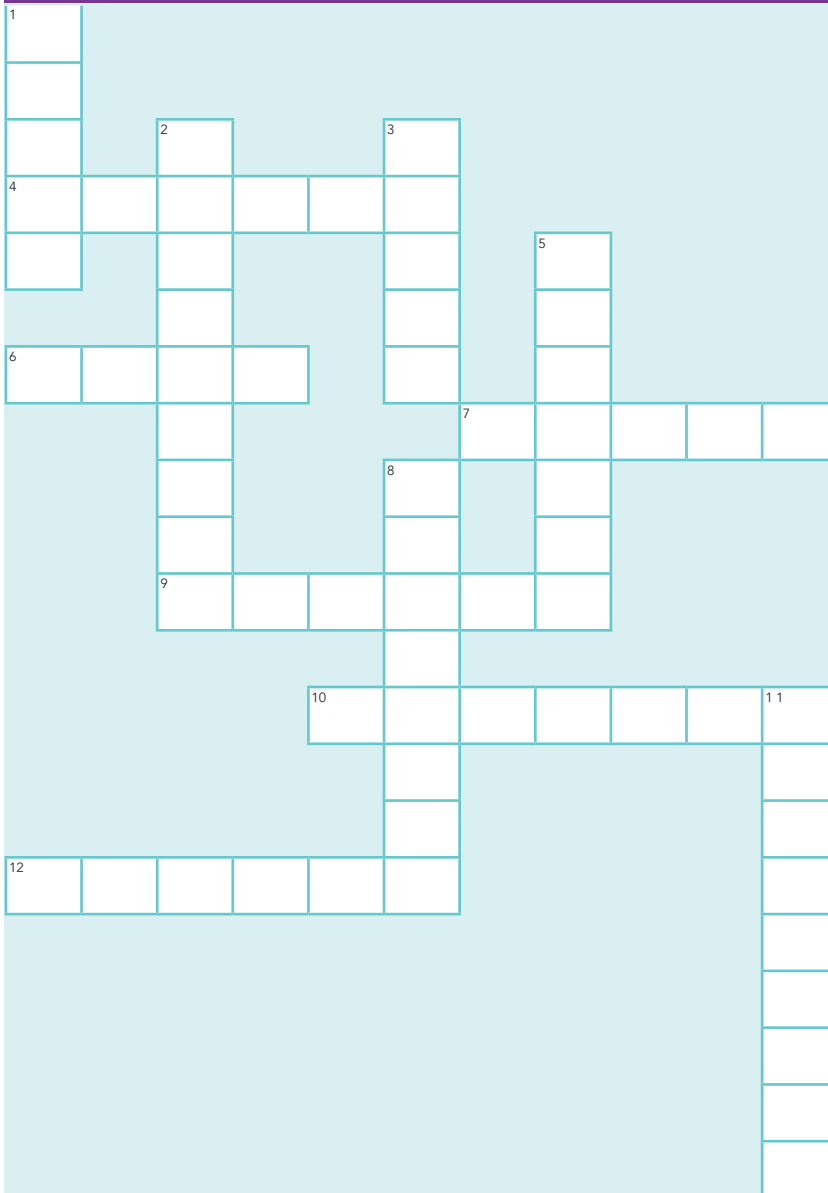
5. Name two of the people who signed the Proclamation.

6. How long did the Rising last?

7. Name the British commander to whom Pearse gave the letter of surrender.

8. What was Cumann na mBan?

Crossword



Across

- 4. A Rose Festival takes place here. (6)
- 6. County known as the rebel county (4)
- 7. A holy place in Mayo (5)
- 9. All Ireland football winners 2015. (6)
- 10. The Titanic was built here. (7)
- 12. The town of Birr is in this county. (6)

Down

- 1. The smallest county in Ireland (5)
- 2. City with a famous glass factory (9)
- 3. This county is known as The Kingdom. (5)
- 5. An airport in Clare (7)
- 8. All Ireland Hurling winners 2015 (8)
- 11. Song: It's a long way to _____(9)

The answers to the clues are all places in Ireland.



If you are stuck, look it up online or ask a friend.

"That's interesting!"



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<p>Voice of the Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) Edition 67 – June 2020 (Page 8)</p>	<p>Random Acts of Kindness Edition 52 – December 2018 (Page 13)</p>
<p>Spelling quiz:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apple _____ 2. Breakfast _____ 3. Camera _____ 4. Distance _____ 5. Elephant _____ 6. Famous _____ 7. Green _____ 8. Height _____ 9. Italy _____ 10. Jelly _____ 11. Kettle _____ 12. Ladder _____ 	<p>Numbers quiz:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Q1. 30 _____ ■ Q2. 180 _____ ■ Q3. 300 _____ ■ Q4. 30 _____ ■ Q5 32 _____ ■ Q6. 3 _____ ■ Q7. 7 _____ ■ Q8. 15 _____ ■ Q9. 25 _____ ■ Q10. 366 _____ ■ Q11. 10 _____ ■ Q12. €4.80 _____ ■ Q13. €1 _____
<p>Death of Dolores O’Riordan Edition 43 – February 2018 (Page 19)</p>	<p>A Time Like No Other Edition 66 – May 2020 (Page 26)</p>
<p>Maths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Q1. €602 _____ ■ Q2. Shop A _____ ■ Q3. Jane €960, Peter €240 _____ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Q1. a) €2,640 b) €220 _____ ■ Q2. a) 8 b) 32 _____ ■ Q3. a) €6 b) €2.40 _____

<p>Climate Change Edition 60 – October 2019 (Page 30)</p>	<p>Vicky Phelan Edition 46 – May 2018 (Page 38)</p>
<p>Maths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Q1. 37 _____ ■ Q2. €15 _____ ■ Q3. €20 _____ ■ Q4. €420 _____ ■ Q5. €42 _____ ■ Q6. €2,184 _____ 	<p>Maths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Q1. 160 km _____ ■ Q2. 2 and a half hours _____ ■ Q3. 12.30 pm _____
<p>World Wide Web is 30 years old, Edition 55 – April 2019 (Page 32)</p>	<p>999 – What’s Your Emergency? Edition 38– July 2017 (Page 41)</p>
<p>Maths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Q1. a) 30 years, _____ b) 15 years, _____ c) 45 years _____ ■ Q2. €516 _____ ■ Q3 360 km _____ 	<p>Maths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Q1. a) €315 _____ b) €420 _____ ■ Q2. a) 20 km _____ b) 80km _____ ■ Q3. Ryan’s _____

<p>Saint Patrick's Day Edition 64 – March 2020 (Page 44)</p>	<p>Alcock and Brown Edition 58 – June 2019 (Page 51)</p>
<p>Quiz</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mary Robinson _____ 2. Bono _____ 3. Sonia O Sullivan _____ 4. Gay Byrne _____ 5. WB Yeats _____ 6. Niall Horan _____ 7. Adi Roche _____ 8. Brian Cody _____ 9. Johnny Logan _____ 	<p>Number Quiz</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 4 _____ 2. 12 _____ 3. 10 _____ 4. 100 _____ 5. 72 _____ 6. 240 _____ 7. 3 _____ 8. 5 _____
<p>First Moon Landing Edition 59 – September 2019 (Page 48)</p>	<p>100 Years Since World War I Ended Edition 51 – November 2018 (Page 53)</p>
<p>Maths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Q1. €220 per month _____ ■ Q2. a) Ann €39.20 Tom €19.60 _____ ■ b) Ann € 784 Tom €392 Joe € 196 _____ 	<p>Maths</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Q1. a) €351, b) €360 and c) €370 _____ ■ Q2. €5,300 _____ ■ Q3. €16 _____



A series of 20 horizontal teal lines for taking notes, spanning the width of the page.



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