

That's Interesting!



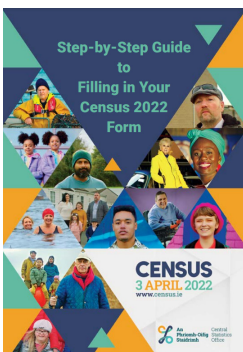
A worksheet for adults to practise reading, writing, spelling and numbers

2022, A Look Back

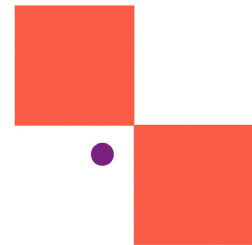


Covid was still very much with us in early 2022 but with most of the population having received their Covid vaccinations and Covid numbers falling, many of the restrictions were lifted by March. Masks must be worn now only in health care settings and you no longer have to show your vaccine certificate before going into pubs and restaurants.

In February, the Russian president, Vladimir Putin declared war on their neighbours, Ukraine, as he tried to take over the country. As war raged and homes and cities were bombed, millions of Ukrainians fled to other parts of Europe. Younger men stayed to fight while women, children and the older people left their homes in fear for their lives. Here, in Ireland, we have welcomed more than 60,000 Ukrainian people. There are now as many as 12,000 Ukrainian children attending schools in Ireland. As the war continues, people are still arriving here daily.



Sunday, 3 April, was Census night when every household in the country was asked to fill in a census form. The census is a count of every person in the country. This year's figures showed that Ireland's population has gone up since the last census and is now standing at 5.1 million people. This is the first time the population has been over five million since 1851.



Popular RTÉ newsreader Eileen Dunne retired this year. For 42 years she was a well-known face in every house in Ireland as she presented the Nine O Clock News every evening.



**Katie Taylor and
Amanda Serrano**

Image source:

TheSportsman.com

2022 was a great year for Irish women in sport. In April, Katie Taylor retained her five world titles when she beat Amanda Serrano from Puerto Rico. The fight was held in Madison Square Garden in New York, in front of the biggest crowd ever to attend a women's boxing match.

Kellie Harrington was among three other Irish women boxers who won medals in the European championship. While 17-year-old Galway girl, Cliona D'Arcy, recently took gold in the World youth boxing championships.

Jockey Rachael Blackmore from Tipperary made history when she became the first woman ever to win the Cheltenham Gold Cup. The Irish women's soccer team qualified for the first time for the World Cup, which will be held next year in Australia and New Zealand.

For the first time ever, the All-Ireland Football and Hurling Finals were held in July instead of September. Limerick made it three in a row when they beat Kilkenny in the hurling All-Ireland, while Kerry beat Galway to win the Football. The Ladies Football All-Ireland was won by Meath, who also won it last year. The All-Ireland Camogie was won by Kilkenny.



Garth Brooks

Image source: Wikimedia
Commons

In September Garth Brooks, the American country singer, held five concerts in Croke Park in Dublin. More than four hundred thousand people attended over the five nights. Back in 2014, the singer cancelled his concerts in Ireland when he was refused permission to perform for more than three nights.

In October, the small village of Creeslough in Donegal was hit by tragedy when ten local people lost their lives in an explosion in an apartment above the local shop. It is still not known for certain how it happened but it is thought to have been caused by a gas leak.



Vicky Phelan

Image source:
© RollingNews.ie / Alamy
Stock Photo

It was with much sadness that the country said goodbye to the brave and courageous Vicky Phelan who passed away in November. Vicky was a fantastic colleague and advocate for adult literacy when she worked with Waterford Institute of Technology (now South East Technological University). NALA's deepest sympathies go out to her family, friends and everyone who knew her. She will always be remembered for fighting for justice for women's health after she found out that she and several hundred other women were given the wrong results in smear tests back in 2011.

A Look Back at 2022 Quiz



1. Who won the 2022 All Ireland Hurling Championship? _____
2. Name the American country singer who held 5 concerts in Croke Park in September this year. _____
3. Name the Irish woman jockey who, in 2022, became the first woman ever to win the Cheltenham Gold Cup race. _____
4. In March, Katie Taylor's fight took place in an American city. Name the city. _____
5. This year was the 100th anniversary of the death of one of the men who fought for Ireland's independence. Name the man. _____
6. When did Census Night, 2022, take place? _____
7. Name the woman, who died recently, who fought for women's health in Ireland. _____
8. What county won the All-Ireland Football championship in 2022? _____
9. The Irish women's soccer team qualified for the World Cup in 2023. Where will it be held? _____
10. Name the well-known RTE news reader who retired this year. _____
11. What county won the Ladies Football All Ireland? _____
12. What is the current population of Ireland? _____

Christmas word search



See if you can find these words all hidden in the word search.

(The first one is done for you.)

turkey ✓

trifle

Santa

card

ham

brussels sprouts

stocking

carol

plum pudding

candle

reindeer

holly

stuffing

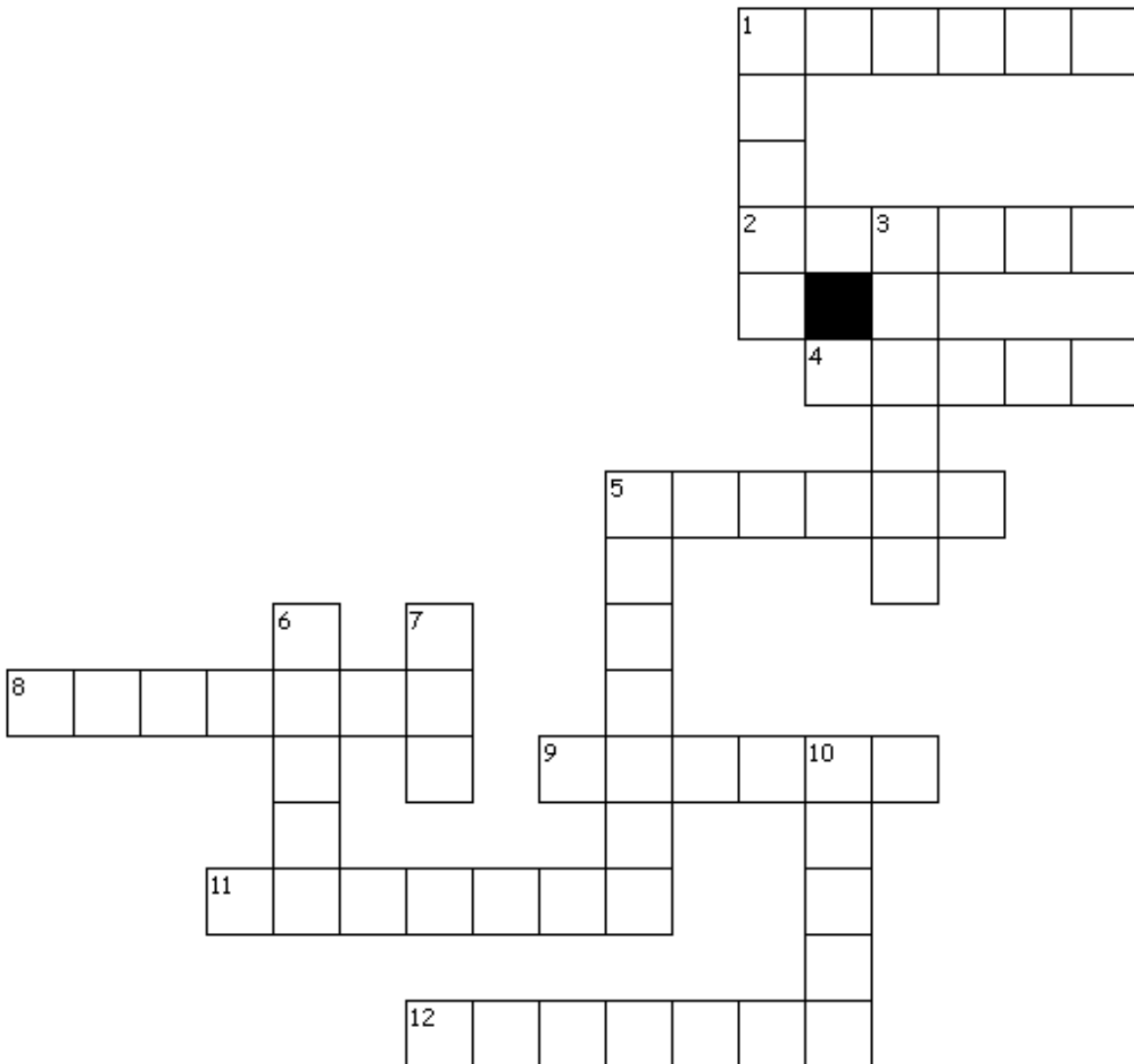
tree

cracker

present

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

Crossword



Across

1. Crackers and _____
2. In Ireland we call it a spud
4. Apple Pie and _____
5. Would you like tea or _____
8. Plum _____, A dessert for Christmas
9. An orange vegetable
11. Rasher and _____
12. _____ nuggets

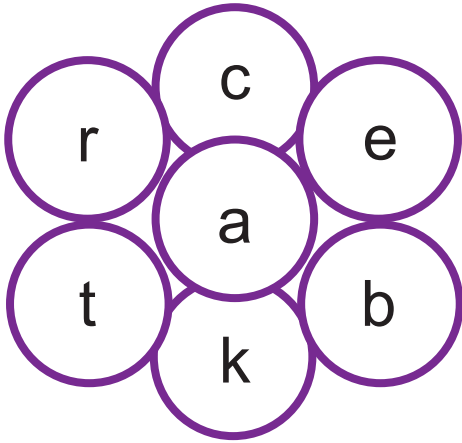
Down

1. Fish and _____
3. Roast _____ and ham, Christmas Dinner
5. Bacon and _____ An Irish dinner
6. A popular Italian dish with lots of toppings
7. You might like a boiled one for breakfast
10. Taytos, cheese and _____

New words



Using the letters below try to make as many **new words** as you can.
(The first one is done for you.)



back

Write the opposite of these words.

(The first one is done for you)

- Wet dry
- Fast _____
- Awake _____
- Late _____
- Under _____
- Heavy _____
- Full _____
- Rich _____
- Thick _____
- Old _____

Dear Reader,

December 2022



We hope you are keeping well and enjoying our new look monthly worksheet “That’s Interesting”.

Thank you to everyone for reading our worksheet and for sending us some nice comments and ideas during the year.

We would like to invite you all to enter our Christmas competition. The closing date will be **31 January 2023**.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy and happy New Year.

Best Wishes,

Learn with NALA team

Competition



If you would like to be in with a chance to win a €25 book voucher, please answer this question:

What is the name of the RTE newsreader who retired recently?

Please send answer and your name:

by Text to **087 198 4228**

or

by email to **edonnellan@nala.ie**

or

by post to **Competition
freepost
NALA
Sandford Lodge
Ranelagh, Dublin 6**

Closing date is 31 January 2023.

Good Luck!

The views expressed in That’s Interesting! are not necessarily the views of NALA.