

That's Interesting!



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NALA

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

Irish Bravery Awards



The National Bravery Awards were set up in 1947 to celebrate people from all walks of life who have bravely tried to save the life of another person while risking their own life.

The decision of who receives the awards is made by a committee that is made up of members from the government and the Garda Síochána. Gold, silver and bronze medals as well as certificates are presented to people depending on how serious or dangerous the life saving incident was.

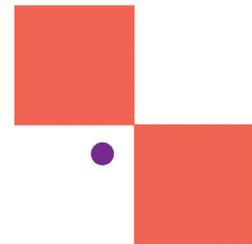
On 10 November this year, a special awards ceremony was held in Farmleigh House in the Phoenix Park in Dublin where twenty-six certificates, six Bronze Medals and thirteen Silver Medals were presented. A gold medal was awarded to the family of James Nicholl from Dublin who died while trying to save a man from drowning in the River Liffey in Dublin last April.



Here we look at some of the brave deeds that were awarded at the ceremony.

Information from www.oireachtas.ie

[Ceann Comhairle presents National Bravery Awards – 10 Nov 2023, 15:26](#)



On a dark winter's morning on 6 January 2020, Eric Doran was on his way to work when he saw a woman being forced into the boot of a car by a man. The woman was screaming and kicking.

Eric drove up alongside the car and the man threw the woman to the ground and fled the scene. Eric noted the make and number of the man's car which led to his arrest later. According to the Gardai Eric's actions saved the woman's life. For his actions, Eric Doran was awarded a Certificate of Bravery.



Early on a freezing cold morning, on 14 December 2022, Marc O'Connor, then aged 9, was a passenger in his mother's car when it hit black ice and skidded across the road landing in a drain under the road.

Marc's mother and his sister were trapped in the car and Marc was the only one able to free himself. He climbed out a broken window with his mother's phone, and called an ambulance. He then walked across the field to where he could be seen and a passing school bus driver saw him and stopped. Marc explained to the bus driver that his mother and sister were trapped and needed help and he went to their assistance. For his actions, Marc O'Connor was awarded a Certificate of Bravery.

Early on the morning of 12 January 2023, a fire broke out at a rented property in Galway. One person made it out of the house but three others were trapped in an upstairs bedroom. Joseph Cahill, who lived across the street, heard the noise and when he looked out his window he saw the three people trapped. Joe got a ladder and climbing up he broke the upstairs bedroom window with a fire extinguisher.



Fire engine

Image source:
© Fire Ireland

He was then able to assist the three people down the ladder to safety before the arrival of the Fire Brigade. All of the people were uninjured. For his actions, Joseph was awarded a Certificate of Bravery.

Many of the awards were presented to people from all around the country who had the courage to jump into a river, a lake or the sea to save someone who was in danger of drowning. One such example of bravery was by David Dunne (Kilkenny) and Mike Bolger (Carlow) who rescued three children and a man from the River Barrow in County Kilkenny.



The River Barrow

Image source:

© Eirian Evans

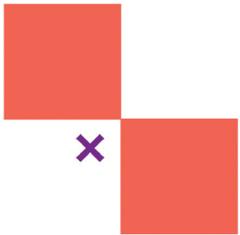
On 1 June, 2020, David Dunne and Mike Bolger were at a local park in Graiguenamanagh when they heard screaming from the river. They saw a man and three children in difficulty in the water. David and Mike jumped into the river and David swam to get one of the children and the man who was struggling against the strong river current.

Meanwhile Mike began trying to rescue another of the children, a girl who had become trapped. The girl was going under the water and the water was so rapid that Mike also got caught in the whirlpool and was struggling to keep them both above water.

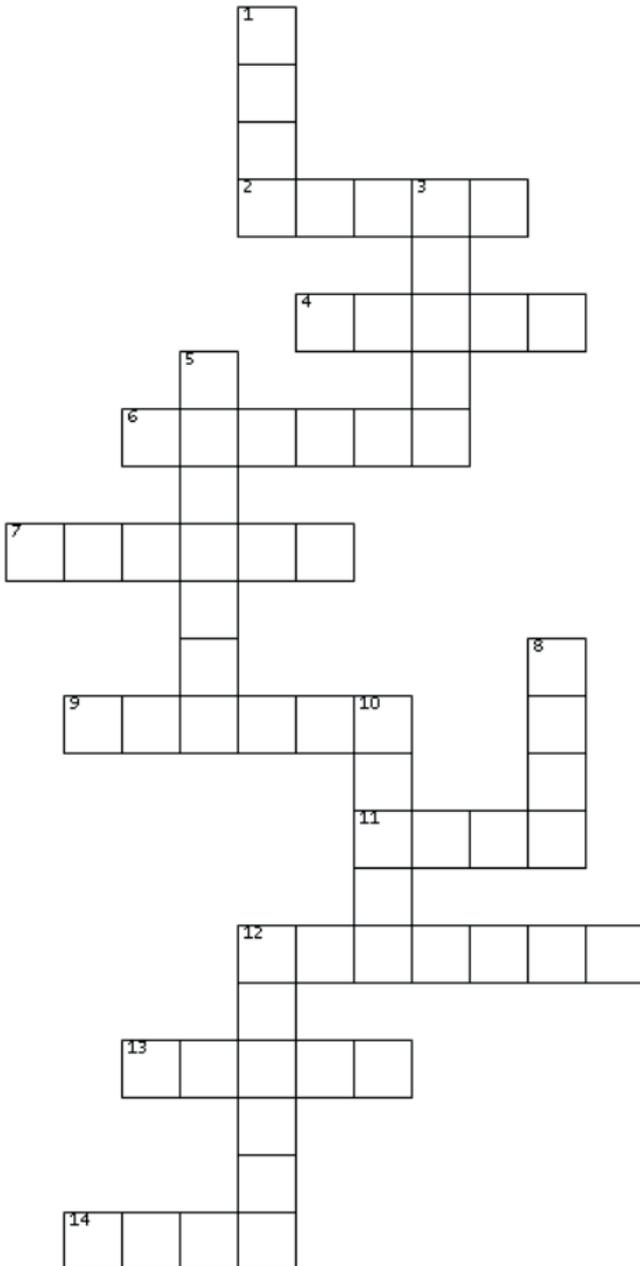
At this point Mike's dog, a Staffordshire terrier called Clyde, jumped in and Mike pushed the girl towards the dog. The girl grabbed on to the dog which left Mike free to swim with his two hands so that he was able to get out of the whirlpool but he was struggling to get the girl to safety. By now David had managed to rescue the man and the two other children. He then swam to where Mike was and grabbed Mike's hand as he was about to go under. Together then they got the girl to safety.

For their actions David and Mike were each awarded a Silver Medal and Certificate of Bravery.

Christmas Crossword



The answers are all words connected with Christmas.



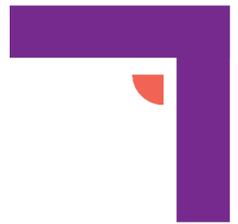
Across

2. O Holy _____, well known Christmas song.
4. Jingle _____, Jingle _____.
6. Roast _____ and ham, the traditional Christmas dinner.
7. We light one _____ and put it in on the window at Christmas.
9. We decorate the tree with fairy _____.
11. Rudolph had a red one of these.
12. You might pull one and find a joke inside.
13. People send these to each other at Christmas.
14. We might eat a few too many of these, Mince _____.

Down

1. "You better watch out, Santa Claus is coming to _____."
3. This tree has green shiny leaves and red berries.
5. Plum _____, a Christmas dessert.
8. You will find your presents under this _____ on Christmas morning.
10. Another name for Father Christmas.
12. Christmas songs are also called Christmas _____.

Word Search



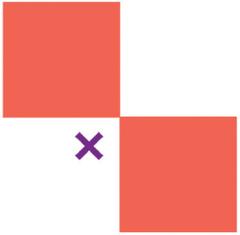
Try and find these towns in the word search below.

(The first one is done for you.)

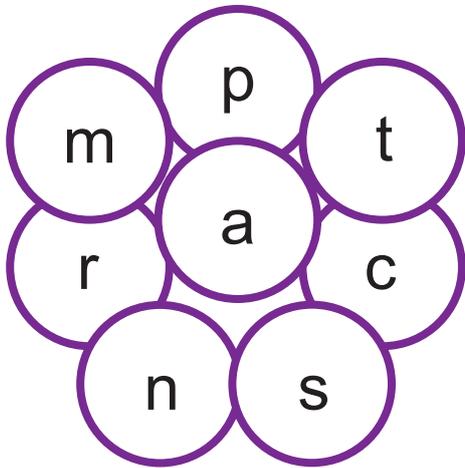
Naas ✓	Arklow	Westport	Dundalk	Tralee	Navan
Killarney	Clonmel	Limerick	Mullingar	Mallow	Waterford
Kildare	Sligo	Tullamore	Letterkenny	Gorey	Kilkenny

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

New words



Using the letters below try to make as many new words as you can.



_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Match the words that have the **same meaning**.

(The first one is done for you.)

- tired quick
- hungry stingy
- fast delighted
- sick drowsy
- talk dislike
- happy chat
- mean starving
- want ill
- hate desire

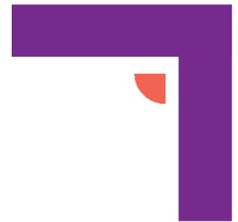
Add the correct prefix

Mis Dis Un

before each word to change the meaning.

(The first one is done for you.)

- Sure Unsure
- Agree _____
- Place _____
- Happy _____
- Understood _____
- Believable _____
- Honest _____
- Like _____
- Lead _____
- True _____



1. Tom wants to buy 6 Christmas selection boxes.
- In Shop A you can buy 3 selection boxes for €5.
 - In Shop B selection boxes are €2.30 each but if you buy 2 you will get a third box free.
 - In Shop C selection boxes are €2 each.

How much will Tom pay for 6 selection boxes in:

Shop A _____

Shop B _____

Shop C _____

2. There are 1200 people working in a company.

- $\frac{3}{4}$ of them are under 50 years of age.
- $\frac{2}{5}$ of them wear glasses.
- $\frac{1}{6}$ of them are left handed.
- $\frac{1}{3}$ of them work from home.

- a. How many wear glasses? _____
- b. How many are left handed? _____
- c. How many are under 50? _____
- d. How many work from home? _____
- e. What fraction do not work from home? _____

Hint

To get a fraction of a number:

Always divide by the bottom number and multiply by the top.

Example:

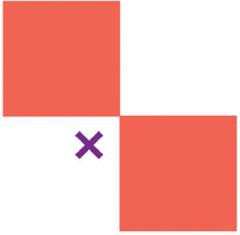
to get $\frac{3}{4}$ of 600

$$600 \div 4 = 150$$

$$150 \times 3 = 450$$

Answers

1. Shop A € 10, Shop B €9.20, Shop C €12
2. a) 480 b) 200 c) 900 d) 400 e) $\frac{2}{3}$



Dear Reader,

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 2024**.

We wish you a very happy Christmas and a 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 word is missing from this Christmas song?

Jingle _____.

Please send answer and your name:

by Phone or 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 2024.

Good Luck!

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