

Letter from the Editor

Alan English



Kathryn Thomas, presenter of an upcoming RTÉ documentary on the skinny jab, looks out from the cover of a new-look Life magazine...

number of words afforded to the magazine's regular features and columns. On page 6 of this section, there's a 3,000 word-plus interview by Niamh Horan with the new housing minister, James Browne...

from when Martin came on board in 1996, I came across a piece by Liam Collins about the Dunnes Stores powerhouse Margaret Heffernan...

Your complete Sunday read



News in brief

Man hospitalised after Crumlin shooting

A man was rushed to hospital with serious injuries following a gun attack in Dublin on Friday night. The 39-year-old was targeted by a gunman at a home on Rutland Avenue in Crumlin...

Status yellow weather alert for 15 counties

A status yellow wind and rain warning has been issued for 15 counties today, with spells of very heavy rain and high winds forecast tomorrow. The warnings will take effect for Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford, Wicklow...

No winner of €2m Lotto jackpot

The numbers drawn in last night's €2,000,000 jackpot Lotto draw were: 08, 28, 29, 34, 44, 45 (bonus 43). There was no jackpot winner. The €1m Lotto Plus 1 jackpot numbers were: 01, 02, 09, 21, 22, 43 (bonus 37)...

Waterford is first 'autism-friendly' city

Towns across Ireland were recognised at the AsIAM Autism Friendly Towns Awards, with Waterford becoming the first city to gain 'autism-friendly' status. The awards recognise areas that are accessible and inclusive for autistic individuals...

Renewed appeal for missing woman

A renewed appeal has been issued for Esra Uyrun on the 14th anniversary of her disappearance from Dublin. Ms Uyrun, who was 38 at the time, has not been seen since leaving her home in Collinstown Grove, Clondalkin...

Her family are appealing for people to come forward to assist with the garda investigation. Gardaí are asking anyone with any information, no matter how insignificant it may seem, to contact Ronanstown garda station or any garda station.

Dublin woman leaves over €4m in will

Kathleen Keville, with an address at Cork Street, Co Dublin, left an estate valued at €4,363,723. Other wills include: Liam Bannon, Mountshannon Road, Lisnagry, Co Limerick, left €2,070,980; Daniel Black, College Park, Terenure, Co Dublin, left €1,444,817...

The value of estates may include property, including the family home, and should not be regarded as cash

Leinster House reviewing cheaper car charging rates

KEN FOXE

Leinster House has confirmed it is reviewing the bargain prices that apply for TDs and senators to charge their electric vehicles (EVs). Politicians and staff of the Oireachtas have been benefiting from rates way below the market standard since the introduction of charging stations in the country's most exclusive car park...

It is understood the Oireachtas is losing money through the subsidised service and has now confirmed a review is under way. A spokeswoman for Leinster House said: "Increasing the rate charged per kWh for EV charging is under consideration by the facilities management unit..."

year depending on how far a politician lives from Dublin — is based on civil service mileage rates for standard petrol or diesel vehicles. However, no change has been made to reflect the fact that some members are using electric vehicles and offered a facility to charge them at way below market prices...

An information note said: "Initially the electricity costs were not recouped. The costs were negligible, and it was agreed that we would not recoup from members as members of the public did not have to pay to use ESB EV-charging points units at that time..."

The Oireachtas again chose to cut the rate for the first nine months of last year to 25 cent, before settling on the current 30 cent kWh rate in the final quarter of last year. Late last year, a new mobile app system was introduced, which meant TDs, senators and staff have to pay upfront for e-charging...

X-ray system that cost state gallery €125k lying idle for eight years

Machine unused as building had no lead-lined room to absorb radiation

GABIJA GATAVECKAITE

The National Gallery of Ireland spent nearly €125,000 on an X-ray machine in 2017 which has never been used. It was paid for by the taxpayer through the Department of Culture, Arts and Media under Creative Ireland's Digitisation Scheme. Further questions will be prompted about spending practices by public bodies after it emerged in recent weeks the Arts Council spent €7m on a failed IT system...

stalled in a mobile unit, in line with guidance from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Officials now expect the X-ray machine to be operational sometime later this year. Spending on it is detailed in the National Gallery's annual report for 2023, first submitted to government on October 14 last year. It is understood the fiasco is detailed under a heading entitled "non use to date exchequer funded fixed assets"...



A mum with her cheetah cubs in Fota Wildlife Park. Picture by Darragh Kane

WAYNE O'CONNOR

Dublin Zoo and Fota Wildlife Park have requested €25m in state funding to support their species conservation efforts. The request was made to the Office of Public Works (OPW) by the Zoological Society of Ireland, which is responsible for both the zoo and park last September before the Government announced its 2025 Budget...

The biodiversity plan outlines a need to reduce the intensity of biodiversity loss and address an acceleration in the global rate of species extinction. The UN's sustainable development agenda aims to preserve oceans and forests while tackling climate change. Dr Schwitzer said that significant funds and effort will go towards a strategic plan for Dublin Zoo, which as well as aiming to increase visitor numbers to 1.5 million per year by 2031, will also target saving wildlife globally...

environmental footprint, and to ensure the highest standards of care for animals," said a society spokesman. "All funding received is carefully allocated in accordance with governance standards and is fully reported in the Zoological Society of Ireland's annual accounts." A spokeswoman for the OPW said capital grants for the zoo and wildlife park have been increased to a combined €4.2m this year because of the impact of construction cost inflation since 2020...