



**Harris and FG**  
How they see each other

How has Fine Gael taken to media guru Eoghan Harris... and how has he found the Party?  
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*Transplant girl Gillian proves to be a model child*



**BRAVE** Bray youngster Gillian Staunton, who less than a year ago underwent a heart and lung transplant, proudly strutted down the catwalk at a Dublin fashion show last night. The show was in aid of the Missionary Sisters of the Holy Rosary.

The plucky 10-year-old, who suffers from cystic fibrosis, modelled with all the elegance

of a pro to the applause of onlookers. Our picture by Brenda Fitzsimons shows Gillian with model Nicola Herbert from Christchurch

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**CENTURY LICENCE REVIEW?**  
**Crisis worries Cabinet**

By Richard Moore, Emily O'Reilly and Gary Culliton



Oliver Barry

CENTURY RADIO could face a review of its licence as a result of the current crisis at the station. The Irish Radio and Television Commission, which awarded Century the franchise to run a national independent radio service, will consider the situation at a meeting today.

Last night one prominent IRTC member told the IRISH PRESS that he would demand that Century's directors be called to appear before the Commission, and that the station's licence could be subject to review.

The crisis — sparked off by the dismissal of three senior journalists — is also expected to be raised at today's Cabinet meeting.

Ministers are expected to tell the station's directors that there can be no dilution of Century's obligations to carry a 20 per cent programme content of news and current affairs.

Meanwhile the Labour Relations Commission will meet both sides on Thursday in a bid to come up with a peace formula.

With the station's journalists, members of the NUJ, in mandatory session yesterday, Century was unable to broadcast

its main lunchtime and evening news or any bulletins between 11am and 7pm.

NUJ members have not ruled out holding a mandatory meeting again today which would not alone disrupt station broadcasting but also severely hit a large number of independent local stations which broadcast Century headline news.

Both the IRTC and the Government are upset at the well-publicised comments of both Century director Oliver Barry

and Patrick Taylor, of London's Capital Radio, which has a stake in Century, questioning the 20 per cent news and current affairs obligation.

Mr Taylor described Century as "music-driven" and yesterday Mr Barry said that the station would be happier if the 20 per cent commitment was reduced.

One IRTC member last night warned that the Commission had become extremely weary of Century's "enduring problems". He declared: "Century is the national station and can't be the same as 98 FM, a local channel, for instance."

The three journalists at the centre of the dispute, head of news David Davin-Power, political correspondent Caroline Erskine, and legal affairs correspondent Jacqueline Hayden, turned up for work as normal yesterday, but Century management insisted that they will not be reinstated.

The two correspondents were given letters yesterday by the management warning them not to contribute to news bulletins, a move which an NUJ spokesperson described as extraordinary.

Meanwhile, Labour leader Dick Spring is set to table a question on the matter when the Dail reassembles tomorrow. Workers' Party Communications spokesman Pat McCartan has called for a full probe by the IRTC.



ABOVE: Mr Basil Clancy, chairman, Ballaghaderreen Community Development Association (left) with local Postmaster James Kilcoyne. INSET schoolchildren from the town

waiting for funding for ten houses for elderly people who want to move into the town from their isolated homes, but he admits ruefully that were he to build 50 he could fill them also.

"What that in effect means is that there are whole sections of the rural area which will completely disappear. The solution seems to be to cover it up with trees."

Yet even for those who have employment and in particular the young, the lack of a social life has meant, he says, that "they've given up good jobs and emigrated to follow their friends."

**T**he town's postmaster James Kilcoyne is convinced that with proper management rural post-offices could be transformed into viable businesses. As he describes the minute of his daily routine, he cannot hide his impatience with a centralised but not computerised system that fails to take into account local needs.

Often Kilcoyne and his co-workers are seen as the representatives of all officialdom. They patiently explain everything from TV license requirements to social welfare forms.

"The rural post-offices are a fantastic infrastructure that has been very cheap to run, a lot of corporate bodies would be

prepared to deal with us," he argues.

"But if we got that business in the morning we wouldn't be able

*The biggest problem within a five-mile radius of the town is the very elderly population*

to deal with it, we're too paper-based, we need to be computerised."

**B**rian Kelly has used his Ballaghaderreen base to develop a computerised milk-bank now being exported to Portugal and the Azores. He has grave fears about the town's future in the event of a post-GATT crisis.

"It would have a disastrous effect on the town. The planting programme is gobbling up agricultural land as it is, and once land is planted with trees it's dead.

"It's a Rip Van Winkle exercise, the whole town is expected to go to sleep for 15 years and the children with it. There'll be a silence where it'll be very hard to do anything. I wouldn't be able to stand up in front of the young people here and say you have a future in this area, if that happens."



The Pale... dazzling future?

**O**NE of the hottest selling music cassettes in Dublin right now is 'Why Go Bald?' by the incredible The Pale, a brilliant young band described in these pages as 'more Casbah than Ceili' and long tipped for Access fans as THE NEXT BIG THING.

While the Dublin lads have the offers on the table, according to manager Colm Farrelly, they are not the only ones.

Another Dublin band, Lir, have been making waves all over the world in this past year that by now they could almost produce their own directory of record companies and A&R men.

Their most recent coup is to be singled out as 'Dublin's New Heavyweight Contenders' by Richard Gehr in the American Creem magazine and 'the best showcase group by far' at last year's Irish International Music Seminar.

The Cranberrys from Limerick have not, contrary to my premature report of two weeks ago, signed to Imago contenders along with Dedicated, EMI, Sony, Polydor and Siren, who are seeking to sign the band.

The band has dropped 'Saw Us' from their name.

These three bands alone disprove the theory that all Irish bands sound the same.

## Morrissey live show


**S**TEPHEN Patrick Morrissey has chosen Ireland as the venue for his first live show since the dramatic events of December '88 in Wolverhampton's Civic Hall when almost 4,000 fans turned up in Mozer teeshirts (the only condition of entry) to fill a 2,000 capacity venue.

On that occasion Morrissey was involved in making a video called The Humerist for friend Tim Boad and unveiling another of his classic three minute outbursts of irony. The last of the International Playboys about the Kray Twins.

Morrissey is a regular visitor to Dublin and sightings have been reported in all the right places — second hand bookshops, back street art galleries, Temple Bar record shops and the occasional gig in McGonagles.

# The next big thing

**ACCESS ALL AREAS**



*Dermott Hayes*

**THE ROCK COLUMNIST**

His father, a Dubliner, once shocked Gerry Ryan by ringing his breakfast show and asking him why they never played his son's music?

## NMS Trip

**T**HIS year's New Music Seminar in New York is generating more interest in Ireland than in previous years. Last year there was an official Irish involvement to test the water

and things went so well that there could be an impressive Irish contingent this year.

NMS International Director and Ireland Representative, Una Johnston tells me the deadline for pre-registering for NMS 12 is fast approaching on May 3 and registration forms and full details are now available in the first NMS 12 Update.

Parties interested in reading the NMS Update and registering should ring Una at Dublin 284-0695 or fax 285-6762.

Six students from the Ballyfermot Rock School management course have received Arts Council and Aer Lingus travel grants to travel to the New Music Seminar in New York in July to further their knowledge of the business.

## HAPPENINGS

● The very happening Mock Turtles will support Inspiral Carpets when they visit Ireland for a show in the National Stadium on May 5.

● Meanwhile with fans to rival Godzilla in the land of the Rising Sun, Dublin's Power of Dreams are all set to support the fabulous The Pixies in the Point Depot on June 19.

● 808 State play the NHE Limerick Rag Ball on Thursday night, supported by rising young local heroes, The Cranberrys.

● The Beautiful South make a long awaited visit to Ireland on May 20 when they play the Nation at Stadium.

● Robert Palmer — who scored a major hit recently with Mercy Mercy Me, an old Marvin Gaye classic — plays The Point on June 9.

● Megs City Four — the hardest working band in the world — play a short Irish tour next month starting in Sir Henry's Cork on May 1 University of Ulster, Jordanstown on May 2; Charlie's Bar in Aungier Street, Dublin on May 3 and The Stardust in Derry on May 4.

● Beverley Craven is in the Olympia on Sunday night while the splendiferous Everly Brothers play The Point.

● Fatima Mansions, my favourite Irish band in exile, will make a brief three-date appearance here at the end of May.

● Hothouse Flowers' bassist, Peter O'Toole, will be the special guest host of The Month of Sundays gig in The City Centre next week which will feature Saul Reaction, Boys in the Band, God's Eyeballs, Zeus and Callan...