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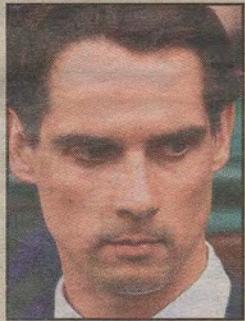
Thursday December 17 2015 €1.40 (inc vat)

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DOLORES PLEADS GUILTY



MOURNER: Michelle



TRAGIC DEATH: John

Star's  
tribute  
to her  
'king'  
John

■ Olivia KELLEHER

DOWNTON Abbey star Michelle Dockery yesterday paid an emotional tribute to her "hero" fiancé John Dineen at his funeral in Cork.

The actress said the 34-year-old had been a tower of strength during his brave cancer battle and told mourners that he was "my friend, my king, my hero, my everything".

■ SEE PAGES 8&9

I'M AN  
ICON...  
I'M THE  
QUEEN  
OF LIMERICK

AIR RAGE  
INCIDENT:  
Dolores  
O'Riordan  
leaves court  
yesterday  
after her case  
was adjourned  
for sentencing



PAGES  
4&5

What singer told garda  
after air rage incident

### Cabbie is spared sentence

A DUBLIN taxi driver who triple-charged two Christmas shoppers has been spared a conviction. Seamus Goslin (70) from Balfe Road, Walkinstown, admitted in November to breaching the Taxi Regulation Act after he charged the passengers €45 for a short trip. Judge John O'Neill had heard the driver claimed the extra cost was a "carriage charge" for boxes of presents the pair had with them. He adjourned the case until yesterday to see if the taxi driver would give €250 to charity along with €800 in prosecution costs. After seeing receipts of this, he applied the Probation Act.

### Preacher verdict in January

JUDGMENT has been reserved in the trial of a Protestant evangelical preacher accused of making "grossly offensive" remarks about Islam. Pastor James McConnell (78), from Shore Road, Newtownabbey, Co Antrim, was prosecuted over a sermon in which he branded Islam "heathen" and "satanic". McConnell faced two charges over the comments made on May 18, 2014. He denied both alleged offences. The judge set a deadline of January 5 to deliver a verdict in the case.

### Bottle attacker in court

A MAN faces life in prison after a serious assault which left his victim blind in his left eye. Sean Kenny (24) hit Raphael Momoh (21) in the eye with a broken glass bottle which cut the victim's cornea, leaving him scarred and legally blind in that eye. Kenny, of Lourdes Road, Maryland, Dublin, pleaded guilty to the attack on Parkgate Street on January 29, 2013. Kenny, who is serving a sentence for drug dealing and violent disorder, will reappear on January 15.

### Down's rape trial jury out

THE jury will today begin deliberations in the trial of a man accused of raping a woman with Down's syndrome in Dublin. He denies rape, sexual assault and having sex with a mentally impaired person on June 12, 2013.

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## Cranberries rocker admits

# Dolores claimed a Garda 'grabbed her tit'

- SINGER SPAT IN GARDA'S FACE
- LAWYER: SHE WAS 'VERY ILL'

■ Gordon DEEGAN

**AN OUT-OF-CONTROL Dolores O'Riordan** shouted: "I'm an icon, I'm the Queen of Limerick" during an air rage incident at Shannon Airport in which she head-butted and spat in the face of one garda — who she claimed had "grabbed her tit", a court heard.

Inspector Tom Kennedy yesterday told Ennis District Court that during the incident on November 10 last year, the 44-year-old Cranberries singer also spat in the face of and kicked out at an Airport Police Office (APO).

Insp Kennedy said Ms O'Riordan had become unruly on board a Shannon-bound Aer Lingus flight from New York, standing on the foot of flight attendant Carmel Coyne and hurting her.

He said: "She was in the first class area and had become rude... She became difficult, unruly, making her presence felt, walking around."

He said after Ms O'Riordan stood on Ms Coyne's foot, Ms Coyne alerted the captain and the assistance of the Airport Police was requested.

Insp Kennedy said: "Ms O'Riordan was proving very difficult at that stage and telling Ms Coyne, 'Do you know who I am?' and all of that."

#### Patrol

Insp Kennedy said that after Ms O'Riordan was detained when the plane landed, APO Ronan O'Reilly said she "went to hit him in the face, but missed... She was able to hit [him] in the shoulder, and kicked him in the waist area."

Insp Kennedy said Ms O'Riordan spat in the face of another APO, Eamon Power.

The APOs requested Garda back-up while an ambulance was called due to concern for Ms O'Riordan's welfare. She was taken from the aircraft to a nearby ambulance on the tarmac.

Insp Kennedy said: "However, Ms O'Riordan came out of the ambulance and went to run towards the aircraft and had to be restrained by APOs and Garda Shane Dawson."

Insp Kennedy said the mother-of-three told Garda Dawson: "You can't arrest me, I'm an icon. I'm the Queen of Limerick. You don't know who you are dealing with. I pay my taxes so I pay your wages and I am going to sue you."

The inspector said that Garda Dawson took Ms O'Riordan to a patrol car and placed her in it.

However, she then ran from the patrol car. Garda Dawson gave chase and after apprehending her, Ms O'Riordan "turned around and headbutted him and spat into his face".

Insp Kennedy said: "She then alleged that Garda Dawson had grabbed her tit and claimed that he sexually assaulted her by groping at her. It was a very nasty situation."

Garda Dawson told the court: "She accused me of groping her and sexually assaulting her... It ranks as one of the worst incidents that I have had to ever deal with."

#### Evidence

He agreed with Judge Patrick Durcan that the allegation has placed a cloud over him. Ms O'Riordan's solicitor Bill O'Donnell immediately accepted in court on behalf of Ms O'Riordan that there is no substance to the allegation.

Ms O'Riordan arrived at Ennis courthouse at 10am yesterday and entered the courtroom at 1.15pm. The only words she spoke in court were "good afternoon, your honour" after Judge Durcan said: "Good afternoon Ms O'Riordan."

In his plea of mitigation, Mr O'Donnell said that "these were the actions of a very, very ill person".

He said: "Clearly from the evidence, she was somewhat out of control."

"Ms O'Riordan was going through a

## assault in air rage rampage



PLEA: Dolores, seen outside court yesterday, has admitted four offences but her solicitor appealed to the judge not to impose a conviction

'It was one of the worst incidents I ever dealt with'



'EMOTIONAL': Dolores pictured in November 2014, some time after the incident  
Pic: Sunday Independent

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'REMORSEFUL': Dolores arriving at court in Ennis, Co Clare, early yesterday with her mother Eileen



'OUT OF CONTROL': Dolores leaving hospital following her arrest on November 10 last year