



Enjoying a smoke on the Beach.

Bare-cheeked flasher gets a caning in court!

Tourist who dropped trousers in Salthill is told: "Go home, Galway doesn't need your sort"

A 33 year old London based carpenter who was home in Ireland on his honeymoon was threatened with six months imprisonment by a District Justice this week after he was convicted of being drunk and disorderly and of assaulting a Dublin man in Salthill on Saturday night.

The court was told that Gerry Devaney, a native of Ballina with an address at 3, Speelling Road, Tottenham, London, dropped his trousers and underpants outside a chip shop in Salthill and proceeded to dare two nearby men to do the same.

And District Justice John Neilan was told when the two men refused Devaney assaulted one of them, Dubliner Thomas Ward of 31, Windmill Avenue, Swords. Ward was also charged with assaulting Devaney but this charge was dismissed by District Justice Neilan.

Garda Mick Conroy said that he was on duty in Salthill on August 24 when he noticed a scuffle between two groups outside the Wimpy. He intervened and told the two defendants to go home.

However about 20 minutes later, at about 2.50 a.m., he noticed a fight developing between Devaney and Ward outside the Oslo Hotel. "They were beating the hell out of one another and both were covered in blood," he said.

Garda Conroy then arrested both Ward and Devaney and took them to Mill Street Station. Under cross-examination from defending solicitors, Mr Sean O'Carroll (for Devaney) and Mr Ollie Foley (for Ward), Garda Conroy said that both defendants were very co-operative in the Garda station.

Gerry Devaney told the court that he was home from London on his honeymoon. On the night in question he attended a dance in the Oslo Hotel with his wife and some friends.

After the nightclub finished the group got some food in the Wimpy and proceeded to eat it on the path outside.

Devaney said that a group nearby which included Thomas Ward started to taunt him and shout insults. He said they were minding their own business. Devaney said that he threw "a drop of drink" at a girl who was insulting him.

"They were calling us wankers and telling us to go back to where we came from," he said.

Devaney said that he moved away when Garda Conroy arrived but when he was making his way home he encountered Ward's group again. Words were exchanged and blows were struck. Devaney said that he was only defending himself.

The defendant's wife, Margaret Devaney, said that they were minding their own business when they were provoked by Ward and his friends.

Ward told the court that he was working in Galway for a few weeks and had been in C.J.'s on Saturday night with some friends.

He went with his friends to the Wimpy afterwards and the first recollection he had of Devaney was when Devaney stood up outside the chip shop, took off his pants and underpants and suggested to Ward and a friend of his, Colm Mooney, that they should do the same.

Ward said that he refused to participate in such behaviour and that he became embroiled with Devaney when the co-defendant threw the contents of a pint glass in the face of a girl who was in Ward's company.

Ward said that he and Colm Mooney went away after Garda Conroy intervened but encountered Devaney again a short time later outside the Oslo Hotel.

Ward said that Devaney attacked both himself and Colm Mooney and that both of them suffered facial injuries. He admitted that he had struck Devaney but this was purely in self-defence.

Ward said that the whole incident started when Devaney dropped his trousers and taunted him and his friend to do likewise.

"As far as I am concerned I am an ambassador for my

company working in Galway and I am not a troublemaker," he said.

Colm Mooney told the court that Devaney struck him outside the Oslo Hotel but he did not make an official complaint because he felt it would be too much trouble.

Garda Conroy was recalled to the witness box and told District Justice Neilan that there was some mention at the time of Devaney dropping his trousers.

District Justice Neilan said that there was a complete conflict in the evidence before the court but he was in no doubt that the whole incident arose out of Devaney dropping his trousers and underpants.

"It is interesting to note that neither Devaney nor his wife told the court that he had performed this obscenity. Devaney omitted to tell us that he had performed this orgy on the side of a public street where there were females present.



Pictured at the official opening of the Royal Rock development at Kilkerrin Park, Tuam Road, Galway were, from left, Councillor Michael O'Uiginn, Mr. Colm Powell, Powells of William Street, Alderman Michael Leahy, Mayor of Galway and Mr. John Mannion, Managing Director, Royal Rock Ltd.

"If these people had told Devaney to go back to where he came from then I think they were quite right. The Galway and Salthill areas depend greatly on tourism income and the area can do without people like Devaney.

"I say to you Devaney to go back to where you came from. Galway can do without your type. You are nothing but a

hooligan and a thug," said District Justice Neilan.

District Justice Neilan said that he accepted Ward's evidence. "Mr Ward is entitled to have his few drinks and enjoy himself. Even if he had a few too many it is no reason why somebody like Devaney should set upon him. Mr Ward defended himself and any blows he struck were in self-defence. Accordingly I am

dismissing the charges against him," he said.

District Justice Neilan said that he felt that six months imprisonment in Mountjoy might make Devaney appreciate his actions.

But after a plea from Devaney's solicitor, Mr O'Carroll, District Justice Neilan fined Devaney a total of £100 and ordered that he pay £100 compensation.

We must end this carnage on the roads, warns Coroner

The death toll as a result of accidents in County Galway has reached a disastrous level, according to a coroner, who said that everything must now be done to prevent further tragedies from occurring.

Dr. Kieran McLoughlin, Coroner for West Galway, said that the amount of people who had died from accidents since the beginning of the year was frightening.

By Declan Tierney

His remarks were made after he heard an inquest into the death of a 19 year old man, who died from head injuries after he was thrown from his car when it left the road last July.

Dr. McLoughlin particularly referred to August 10th, on which there were two fatal accidents, one in Ballindereen and the other in Cleggan, and he said that this was a dark and grim day for the families of the two deceased.

"The death toll has reached a disastrous level since the beginning of the year and the tragedy is that all of the people who died were very young", Dr. McLoughlin added.

The inquest into the death of Coleman McDonagh from Tooreen, Carraroe, which occurred on July 24th, was told that he was driving from Inverin in the Galway direction with his fiancée when his car left the road.

The car overturned and he was thrown from it and Pathologist, Dr. John Callaghan said that Mr. McDonagh suffered lacerations to his scalp and multiple fractures to his skull which resulted in his death.

It was Dr. Callaghan's opinion that the injuries the deceased suffered were not capable of sustaining life and it was likely that he died instantly as a result of the accident.

His fiancée, Ann Marie McDonagh (22) told the inquest that she and Colie left Furbo that night and were travelling to Carraroe where they met her parents and had a meal.

They were in a public house until closing time and then left. She was driving Mr. McDonagh's car when she felt sick — she said that she suffered from asthma.

She said that Colie took over driving and she fell asleep in the passenger's seat and the next thing she recalled was Colie grabbing her by the hand before the accident happened.

Ms. McDonagh went on to say that after the accident she was upside down in the car and couldn't see Colie, although she heard him breathing a short distance away.

Garda John Glynn said that he arrived at the scene of the accident and saw a Ford Sierra car that had gone off the road. Conditions were wet and windy at the time.

He said that the car had landed on its roof and the body of Mr. McDonagh was in a field in front of the crashed car. There was only one car involved in the accident.

The jury agreed that death was in accordance with the medical evidence, that Mr. McDonagh died of fractures to his ribs and skull.



Noreen Donnellan, Newcastle at a reception for City Business Women in the Connemara Coast Hotel.

Sawdoctors go to the country!

If you never associated the Sawdoctors with Hank Williams you are in for a shock, as the lads from Tuam are the first group of great personalities to select their favourite country songs on the Autumn/Winter schedule of 'Going to the Country' on Galway Bay FM this Sunday night.

'Going to the Country' is a segment of the Country Roads Programme introduced last spring when some of the leading local politicians joined host Tom Gilmore to select their favourite country songs and so successful was this series that the radio station has now decided to introduce a similar segment into the programme for the Autumn/Winter seasons.

This time prominent people from different walks of life will be 'Going to the Country' each Sunday night and The Sawdoctors kick off the series this weekend followed by Mayor of Galway, Dr. Michael Leahy on Sunday week and former People of the Year award winner and Travellers settlement activist Mary Moriarty on Sunday, September 15.

While the young (and some of the not so young) may regard The Sawdoctors as a pop/rock act the lads are experts on good country music as well as having written some fine country songs themselves.

The 'Going to the Country' segment can be heard on the 'Country Roads' programme on Galway Bay FM between 8 and 10 p.m. on Sunday night.



Testing the water at Salthill yesterday.



A silhouette of bathers at Salthill yesterday. Photo by Stan Shields.



Enjoying the sun at Salthill beach yesterday.

Launch of scouting awards in Galway

Scouting SAI is launching the National Outdoor Award, a new programme for its teenage members, on Sunday, September 8 at 7.15 p.m. in Oranmore Lodge.

The Award, which encourages Scout Troops to go on a series of outdoor activities within a 12-month period, is being sponsored by SC Johnson Wax Ireland Ltd. known for their household cleaning products and services.

The Award is a first for Scouting insofar as it introduces a "Q-Symbol" concept for Scout Troops that guarantee to undertake a certain amount of activities. It is also a first for SC Johnson Wax whose logo is the first to appear on a Scout Badge.

City band kick off new radio series on Irish rock

Galway band Toasted Heretic are to feature on a new Radio 2FM series on the best of new Irish Rock. For four weeks Dave Fanning's regular Tuesday night "In Concert" slot will be given over to edited highlights from Cork Rock, starting at 9.30 p.m. on September 3rd with Toasted Heretic from Galway, The Cranberries from Limerick and Dublin's Precious Stones.

For the following three Tuesdays the time shifts to 10.00 p.m. Tuesday, 10th brings together The Wishing Stones, Bird, The Subterraneans and The I.R.S.—currently reincarnated as D.M. Sole and representing Ireland at this year's Eurorock Festival in Cologne.

Week three, on Tuesday, 17th September, features two Belfast bands—Chelsea Drugstore and Noise Merchants Therapy, plus Brilliant Trees and current music press darlings The Frank and Walters from Cork, whose first release has been made Single of the Week in both New Musical Express and Melody Maker.

And finally, on September 24th you can hear Azure Dots, A Touch of Oliver, The Sultans of Ping F.C. and a blistering set from retro-rockers Lir.

Table quiz as Gaeilge to promote language

Galway's 'Club Árús na nGaeil' has launched a table quiz in Irish which will begin in the Dominick Street Club on September 19 and which will continue weekly to the Grand Final on Thursday, December 12.

Udarás na Gaeltachta are sponsoring a first prize of £160, second prize of £100 and third prize of £60. Plaques will also be presented to the winners. Club Árús na nGaeil sees this

table quiz as a novel and interesting way to help increase the level of spoken Irish in Galway and to create a greater awareness of the value of the language and the Gaeltacht to the economic life of the city.

The organisers hope to draw support from schools, shops, branches of Conradh na Gaeilge and both the public and private sectors.

Further information and

application forms are available from Oifig Eolais Chonradh na Gaeilge, Sr. Doimínic (091) 67824/61453. Entry is £12 per team and application forms must be returned before September 6, 1991.