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# CONTENTS

**W**e have a very interesting edition for our readers this time around. A lot has happened within the industry since our last edition.

One of the most notable occurrences was that of a sting operation carried out by several drivers in Dublin City Centre on a civilian who was illegally operating a taxi service. The drivers, posing as commuters asked the man if he would drive them to the airport which he agreed to do on camera. The men then informed him that they were taxi drivers who were fed up with unlicensed drivers operating illegally before calling the guards.

In what is becoming an unfortunately regular occurrence there are a number of stories about taxi drivers being attacked. One such incident is that of a woman who bit a taxi driver on the neck claiming she was a vampire and loved blood. The woman fled the country afterwards but has since been

brought back to justice.

We caught up with one of the longest standing and most memorable faces from the Airport rank who retired earlier this year to discuss his career and retirement.

Tony Rowe, Chairperson of the National Transport Assembly Committee and Spokesperson on Taxis spoke to us about an idea to allow drivers who do not usually work the airport to do so during peak times in order to minimise the waiting times for passengers. He also spoke of the need to reform the current SGS test as the very stringent rules currently in place is putting a lot of strain on drivers.

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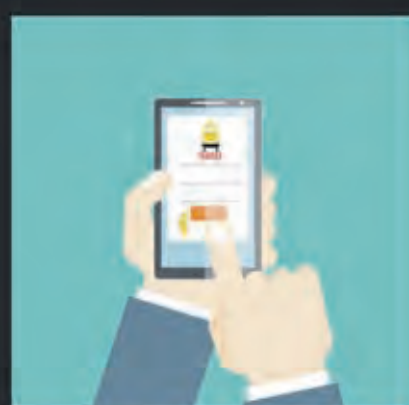
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# ROWE CALLS FOR REFORM WITHIN THE INDUSTRY

**Tony Rowe, Chairperson of the National Transport Assembly Committee, and Spokesperson on Taxis has said there are easy solutions to the current outcry for more taxis at Dublin Airport.**

**T**here is a media outcry for more taxis at Dublin Airport which is gathering a lot of momentum. I'd like to offer an easy and quick solution to this ongoing problem. As we are all aware, throughout the year we have selected times and seasonal times at Dublin Airport when there is a large demand for taxis. It's a bit like when we all use our taps at the same time and the pressure drops. As with taxis there are various sources who see this as a means of operating out of Dublin Airport, and would like to get their foot in the door to operate and this has been tried in the past. As we all know Dublin has a saturation and over-supply of taxis and the streets have been compared to the Carlsberg ad that we have all seen with a saturation of taxis on the road," said Rowe, adding that this has gone beyond a joke at this point.

"This problem of taxis can easily be resolved, simply and immediately. Due to the large number of taxis, when the taxi compound is empty there is a sign on the Airport Road that directs to the holding area. If this could mention that the taxi holding area is open to all drivers. There are thousands of drivers that are on their way into town and they're actually bypassing an empty taxi holding area where there are actually large queues waiting for taxis. There's no rocket science on this, what we would like to see is this situation being alleviated, and when the compound becomes full again, the light can go off, and it means that the drivers can just fill it up gradually as is normal. This would alleviate the backlog. It's not good press for the taxi industry that people are being left stuck

at the airport," said Rowe.

He went on to say that this is a very simple solution which only requires the will of the Dublin Airport Authority (DAA) to be carried out.

"We would like to see taxi drivers acting on this before it's too late, because there are a lot of App companies trying to get in to Dublin Airport, and every taxi driver is aware of this. Now what could happen there is drivers that go into the airport, that would not normally be there could service this over-supply of demand, could donate one euro to a fund, and the fund could go to special needs children. This way, everybody would gain," he said.

He went on to say that at certain times of the year taxi drivers can sit outside the airport for two hours.

"It's quite selective, it's quite seasonal, but nevertheless this is a very simple solution and it doesn't take any great expertise to operate it. The sign is on the Airport Road, all they have to say is that the holding area is open to all drivers. Now all drivers are vetted, there is an app that you can look up here that gives details of drivers so that can't be an excuse. We would like to see this situation resolved and this is a quick way of resolving it and it means that the drivers who are working the airport will still be able to carry on as they normally do, and their work will just be covered basically, not taken away from them. This is very serious, because if app companies [which has happened in different countries], get their foot into the door there it could make work worse for drivers in the long-term. We would like for drivers to wake up on this one and look exactly where it is going," he said.



Rowe has said he has received numerous complaints from drivers concerning the current Taxi SGS test.

“Having investigated some of these complaints, I have decided to bring this shambles to a conclusion with Government input on a national level. A lot of drivers are complaining to us on a daily basis, and the situation is really getting out of hand. One driver with a very new car, was failed the SGS test for having a small spot on the carpet in the back of his boot. He was failed and told to go away and have the car steam cleaned on the inside. Then when he came back for the test he was referred to the country. There was another driver with a relatively new car with a spot on the drivers side back door and had to replace the whole leatherette positioning . This has never happened in the past. The Carriage Office ran this test for years and I never had any complaints, but the complaints now are out of control. There was another driver with a little scratch on the side of his car and he was sent away and had to have the car re-sprayed. This is putting unnecessary costs on taxi drivers looking to renew their licenses. Taxi drivers are hard pressed as it is at the moment and there has been a very high rate of suicides in the taxi industry and stress is a contributing factor as we all know. This is making taxi drivers lives

more stressful, simply because they are going to have their cars tested. It’s meaningless and it’s unnecessary in my opinion, and it’s a waste of hard earned money for taxi drivers. Taxi drivers in this country don’t receive any concessions like taxi drivers in other countries, as regards fuel variations and things like that,” he said.

He went on to say that he has visited the test centre in order to see first hand the practices in place there.

“On a recent visit to the test centre I myself witnessed a driver having his roof sign taken off his car, leaving him unable to work and the man was quite distraught. This man made the remark that he felt that the way this was carried out was very threatening. The police have unearthed cars being driven on the road by people who are illegal, and these illegals sit the test in the centre in question from where these complaints are coming. It’s very clear that the priorities must be addressed here, there are a lot of new drivers that are being put out of the industry.”

He went on to say that reform is needed on this particular issue.

“Drivers should be encouraged to maintain their cars, but now they’re upgrading their cars and being victimised because of it,” he said.

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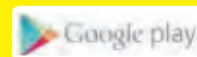
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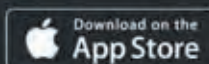
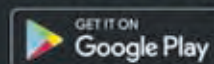
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# Family appeal for help for injured Dublin man who was hit by taxi on holiday in Portugal

“He doesn’t remember his wife, his children, it’s like he’s gone back to his younger days. He’s talking about things that happened 30 years ago as if they are happening now”

**T**he family of a Dublin dad who suffered a serious head injury after an accident while on holiday are desperately trying to get him home to Ireland.

Paul Byrne, 66, was on holidays with friends in Portugal on September 4 when he was accidentally hit by a taxi while crossing the road.

The Byrne family, who moved to Cavan in 2001 but are originally from Blanchardstown, have set up a GoFundMe page in the hope of raising funds to get Paul home by air ambulance.

His son Ciaran told Dublin Live their family are “very private” but felt that there was no choice other than to set up the crowdfunder.

Ciaran said: “We didn’t want it to become public news because my dad would be a very private person and wouldn’t want people knowing his business.

“But it’s got to the stage now where we need to raise funds to bring him home immediately before it’s too late.”

Ciaran revealed: “He landed over on the Tuesday and on the Wednesday, he and his friends decided to go out.

“He was crossing the road to get into a taxi that was pulled in and that his friends were already in.

“Another taxi was driving by on the road at the same time and my dad waited for him to pass before crossing.

“The driver of his taxi put out his hand and beckoned dad to get in from the other side.

“But, the taxi that was driving thought the driver was putting his hand out to hail him down. He reversed back slowly and accidentally clipped my dad on the hip which knocked him over and he hit his head off the road.”

Ciaran and his family flew out the following day to be by Paul’s side. He has been in the Portuguese hospital for nearly a month, his condition worsening shortly after the accident.

Ciaran continued: “He was in intensive care, he had bleeds on his brain and then he was hit with a bout of pneumonia.



“He eventually regained unconsciousness but doctors said he would probably never talk again.

“He is able to talk but he doesn’t remember anything. He doesn’t remember his wife, his children, it’s like he’s gone back to his younger days. He’s talking about things that happened 30 years ago as if they are happening now.

“The bleeds on the brain are going down but his memory isn’t getting much better and I don’t think it will unless we get him home.

“He’s in a foreign place with people speaking a language other than English, he’s very confused and it’s distressing.

“The doctors here believe they have done all they can for dad. So we are desperately trying to get him home. It’s going to cost in excess of €20,000 to get him home by air ambulance and into full-time rehabilitation, that’s even if he is fit to fly.”

“My family and I would be forever grateful if the public can help us out to raise the money needed to get this proud Irishman home where he belongs. No donation is too small, we just need to get dad home.



## CHRISTY HANGS IT UP AFTER 57 YEARS

**Tacsai Magazine recently spoke with a man who should be instantly recognisable to any driver who has worked in Dublin over the last few decades, particularly if they worked the airport.**

**A**fter 57 years driving a taxi in Dublin, Christy Doran retired in February of this year. While he was a familiar face behind the wheel of his taxi, Christy actually started his career driving a bus in Dublin in 1959.

“I first got a PSV license in 1959. I drove the buses for three years. I had the taxi but my Father was driving it. Then he bought his own and I started driving it in 1962,” said Christy.

During his time as a bus driver Christy drove all over Dublin serving many routes including; 23, 24, 16, 17 and more before following in his Fathers footsteps’ driving a taxi.

“My father was a taxi driver also for 55 years. I started off working in the city and then I worked at the airport as well,” he said.

Following his retirement in February, Christy threw a big party for friends, family and fellow drivers to mark the auspicious occasion. The party took place at the A1 in Artane and was very well attended, with great craic had by all. While Christy jokes that the attendance might have had a lot to do with the free bar on the night, the fact that drivers reached out to Tacsai magazine to pay tribute to him is a testament to how well liked and respected he was within the Dublin taxi scene.

Christy loved his job, and having driven a taxi in Dublin for 57 years it’s easy to imagine how hard it could be to give it up.

“I’d go back out to work tomorrow, only my kids wouldn’t let me,” he said.

He’s adjusting well though, enjoying daily walks in Santry Park and spending time with his family. He remains well liked and respected by his colleagues..



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# GETTING PREPARED FOR CARD PAYMENTS

We hear from Barry Gray about card payments and how to pick the right provider



**T**ravelling in an Irish taxi looks set to become even easier. Payment by card for your cab will soon be standard, as the National Transport Authority considers plans to require card payment facilities in all taxis. As we near 2020 this is hardly surprising news, with London's black cabs having successfully introduced mandatory card payments almost 3 years ago.

How consumers pay for goods and services has

fundamentally changed in Ireland with Debit cards replacing cash as the primary payment method. The total number of active Debit in issue in Ireland stood at over 4.5 million at the end of Q2 2019, with Debit card spending rising by 10 per cent in year-on-year terms in June 2019 to nearly €3.5 billion. The introduction of contactless, and more recently mobile phone payments like Apple and Google Pay, has contributed to the exponential growth in recent years.





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### 4. Do they offer card terminals with a built-in SIM card to get GPRS coverage nationwide?

Some providers offer terminal readers that must be connected to a mobile phone via Bluetooth to get coverage. This can be very problematic if you cannot pick up a connection at the drop-off site and the customer has no cash. Always go with a reputable card terminal brand like Ingenico or Verifone, which has a built-in GPRS SIM card.

### 5. Do they charge any PCI fees?

PCI is a mandatory requirement for card compliance. Confirm the card terminal is PCI compliant but then ask whether there are any fees for PCI compliance. Some Providers charge additional monthly fees for this.

### 6. Do they charge any other hidden fees other than the card transaction fees and/or terminal rental?

Card Payments are notorious for hidden fees like the PCI fee mentioned. Check whether there are ANY fees other than the card transaction fees and/or terminal rental.

### 7. What is the contract length?

Be aware - some Providers have 36 month or longer contracts. Some have no contract for processing but 3 years on the terminal hire.

### 8. Is there a cancellation or early termination fee?

Some Providers can tie you into a very long contract and then penalise you to exit early.

### 9. How quickly do they pay the funds into my bank account?

Ensure your money is settled into your bank account quickly. Next day is preferable.

### 10. Do they support all of major card brands?

Look for Visa and Mastercard but also other card schemes like UPI for Chinese tourists.

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# Taxi Sharing for Dublin

FREE NOW, Ireland's leading e-hailing app, has announced its new innovative taxi-sharing service "Match" is to expand across Dublin city and into the surrounding areas.



**P**reviously trialled as a pilot in the Grand Canal Dock and Sandyford Industrial Estate in Dublin, the taxi-sharing service, offered in partnership with Smart Dublin, will now be available to all FREE NOW customers within the M50 ring around Dublin. Over the course of the pilot which has been running since June, Friday afternoon was found to be the most popular period for 'Match' requests, with Dublin Airport the most popular destination the company said.

Alan Fox, General Manager for FREE NOW Ireland, said that a much greater number of passengers across Dublin will now have the option to pair up, enjoy lower fares and better use existing taxi capacity.

"Our aim is to offer more cost-effective and efficient transport modes to everyone in Ireland, regardless of age, location or income. We want to help cities and towns reduce traffic congestion by helping passengers to better use existing taxi capacity, and, at the same time, avail of cheaper fares. The 'Match' technology is a smarter solution for passengers, particularly at peak hours as we get back into the busy Winter traffic period. It reduces waiting times and carbon emissions, and now offers even more of our customers a flexible, cost-effective transport solution that really meets their needs. FREE NOW's focus going forward is on driving new models of transport and mobility that prioritises interconnectivity and sustainability, transforming how people live and work as well as supporting economic growth. We want to reduce car ownership, reduce congestion and make a real difference to how our

passengers move around cities."

Smart Dublin Lead, Alan Murphy, said: "At Smart Dublin we want to develop new urban solutions for our citizens, including improving transit options and 'match' offers real progress in this regard. Taxi-sharing innovations like 'match' can position Dublin as a world leader in the development of new ways to travel, work and live. It is very positive to see this service now expand to all Dublin's four local authority areas. Smart Dublin's goal is to further build partnerships with universities, citizens and private industries working with smart technologies to tackle challenges and improve quality of life for businesses, residents and visitors across the Dublin region."

'Match' is based on a geo-fenced area in the app where passengers can use the service, with passengers notified of 'Match' availability when inside the virtual fence. The geo-fenced areas have taxi-sharing options available 24/7 and fares are calculated transparently using the technology on the app.

The expansion of 'Match' is the latest development in the growth of the FREE NOW app's services in Ireland. The app carried a record number of almost 5 million passengers in the second quarter of 2019, with 506 taxi drivers joining its fleet over this period to help meet ongoing growth in customer demand on the app. The company now has a fleet of over 13,000 drivers in total, which is more than every other taxi company in the country combined.

Under the themes of Smart Environment and Smart Mobility, Smart Dublin has engaged with local authority champions working on solutions to investigate and introduce EV charging points, reduce carbon emissions, improve air quality, reduce traffic congestion and provide alternative transport options..

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# Reigning Mr Ireland convicted of assaulting taxi driver in Galway

Wayne Walsh (28) told garda he would pay fare but attacked driver after leaving station



**A** man who currently holds the title of Mr Ireland has been convicted of assaulting a taxi driver and refusing to pay a fare in Galway city.

Wayne Walsh (28), from Caherbrian, Gort, appeared before Galway District Court this week, charged with assaulting Robinson Isibor at Parkavara, Mill Steet on April 22nd, 2018.

Walsh, who was accompanied in court by his father, a retired taxi driver, initially indicated he would be contesting the charges, but changed his plea to guilty before the hearing. A charge of breaching the peace by engaging in threatening, abusive and insulting words or behaviour was withdrawn after the guilty plea.

Sgt Aoife Curley said Mr Isibor drove his taxi to Galway Garda station at 2.52am on the morning in question and complained that a passenger had refused to pay a fare outside the G Hotel.

Garda Linda Woodman went out to the taxi and spoke to Walsh, who told her he would pay the €20 fare and then began searching his pockets for the money.

The taxi left the garda station but Mr Isibor later returned and said he had been assaulted. He said he was grabbed by the neck and punched while driving Walsh back to the hotel. He said that when he stopped the car, he was dragged out of it and attacked. Sgt Curley said Mr Isibor had slap marks on his face when he returned to the garda station.

Barrister Garry McDonald, defending Walsh, said his client got a taxi to the G Hotel and had no cash on him but he did have a bank card and offered to pay if the driver stopped at an ATM.

Judge Mary Fahy said Mr Isibor did not need to give evidence after the guilty plea but invited him to tell the court of how the assault had affected him.

"I suffered seriously. My feet were sore. I couldn't go to work. I

had bruises all over my body," he replied.

Judge Fahy said taxi drivers were particularly vulnerable to assaults while they were working.

"If he [Walsh] didn't want to pay his fare, he shouldn't have got the taxi," she said, asking if Walsh had drink taken at the time.

Mr McDonald said his client had had a few drinks but was not highly intoxicated. He said Mr Isibor had refused to bring Walsh to an ATM, at which point the taxi driver interjected and said "that is a lie".

The judge said: "The garda will say she heard him say he had cash and then he says he didn't have cash. Why did he assault somebody? He was in the wrong and why did he assault him?"

Mr McDonald replied: "He didn't understand the injured party would be here."

The judge replied: "In other words, he was going to contest (the charges) until he saw the victim in court."

Mr McDonald said that was not the case. "When he saw him in court, he wished to apologise to him and is offering an apology to him now."

Judge Fahy said: "There is not one single word that I have heard that would impress me about your client. I'm here waiting".

Mr McDonald said his client did a lot of charity work, had no previous convictions and completed an alcohol awareness course after this incident.

Judge Fahy said Walsh was "not a person suitable to be left conviction-free".

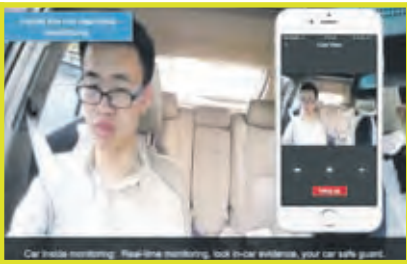
Mr McDonald informed the court Walsh had brought €1,000 compensation to court for the victim, who refused the offer.

Judge Fahy fined Walsh €600 for the assault and €400 for refusing to pay the fare. She granted leave to appeal the convictions.

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T&C APPLY

# Taxi driver accused of raping 17-year-old passenger after night out in Belfast



**William Harbinson told police the girl instigated the sexual activity and that he ‘gave in’, a court heard.**

**A** taxi driver accused of raping a 17-year old passenger told police she instigated the sexual activity and that he “gave in”, a court heard today.

William Harbinson, 57, is currently standing trial at Belfast Crown Court on three charges linked to an alleged incident in the back of his taxi in September 2017.

Whilst he claimed the passenger paid him compliments, kissed him, rubbed his leg and told him “I love older men”, she claimed she was raped and that during the sex attack she told him to stop as he was hurting her.

The jury of six men and six women heard the complainant was a 17-year-old virgin at the time, Belfast Live reports.

Harbinson, from Highpark Crescent in the west of Belfast, has been charged with, and denies, three offences - namely rape, sexual assault and sexual assault by penetration on September 2, 2017.

A police interview conducted with the complainant two days after the alleged rape was played to the jury.

When asked about the events which led to her being in Harbinson’s taxi, the complainant said that on the evening of Friday September 1, 2017 she drank two-thirds of a half-bottle of vodka getting ready, then got a taxi to a sports club for her friend’s birthday.

She consumed a couple more beers before getting a taxi with friends to the Kremlin nightclub in Belfast at around 11.30pm. The complainant said at this point she was drunk, and switched to drinking water as she had had enough alcohol.

In the interview, the complainant said that after she fell in the club she was given a warning by the bouncers, and was asked to leave at around 1.30am after spilling a drink.

The complainant said that once outside, she tried calling a few taxi companies but couldn’t get a taxi. She then walked over to St Anne’s and called a friend before walking back to the Kremlin to try and meet her other friends.

She said she noticed a white taxi sitting outside the club, and that after asking the driver if he was free, she got into the passenger’s seat.

The complainant told the police: “He started talking to me and he was complimenting me on my appearance and I awkwardly laughed. I told him I was going to an after-party and he said he had tins of Carlsberg in the back and that I should climb in and get them.”

She added she climbed in the back and couldn’t see any beer - and at this point the driver stopped the car and opened his boot before getting into the back seat via the driver’s side.

She also told police: “He pushed me and I hit the back of my neck off the car door. Then he grabbed my wrists and started taking my trousers off.”

The complainant said “I kind of froze” and that during the incident she repeatedly told him to stop. She said at one point during her five-minute ordeal, she told him he was hurting her.

She added that after the attack came to an end, he got back into the driver’s seat and took her to her destination. In the interview, she said: “When I arrived, the metre said £36 and it’s usually around £10. When we got there, he said ‘you don’t have to pay’ and I got out.”

The complainant said that when she told her friend what had just happened, the police were called.

An investigation was launched and Harbinson was arrested on suspicion of rape and sexual assault. He told police that after picking the complainant up, he offered her a beer.

He said she then kissed him on his cheek, said complimentary things to him and rubbed his leg. Harbinson also told police he “gave in and asked if she wanted to go somewhere” and that he suggested they go to Glencairn where she instigated sexual activity.

The defendant also claimed she told him ‘I love older men and my friends are like wee boys’ and made the case that the sexual activity was with her consent.

# VAMPIRE PASSENGER ORDERED TO PAY UP

**A back-seat passenger bit a taxi driver on the neck before telling him she was a vampire who loved blood.**

**P**olish national, Alexandra Kruzel (38), was living in an apartment at Cuan na Coille, Bishop O'Donnell Road, at the time of the attack five years ago before moving to Germany.

The shocked taxi driver drove to Galway Garda Station and reported the incident immediately after he had dropped Kruzel at her address on March 22, 2014.

She was subsequently charged with two counts of assaulting the man as he drove along Seamus Quirke Road in the early hours of the morning.

A bench warrant was issued for Kruzel's arrest when she subsequently failed to show up in court to answer the charges.

The warrant was executed last month on her return to Galway when she was arrested while intoxicated at Spanish Arch.

She appeared on bail before Galway District Court this week where she pleaded guilty to one of the assault charges.

Sergeant Cathal Rodgers, prosecuting, withdrew the second assault charge following the plea to the first.

He said the taxi driver had picked up the woman outside Karma nightclub around 1.30am and while driving along, she leaned forward and bit him on the left side of his neck, holding on for 30 seconds.

He pulled over and pleaded with her to let go and not break the skin.

"Eventually, she let go after 30 seconds, sat back and started laughing," Sergeant Rodgers told the court.

The accused, he said, told the driver: "I am a vampire and I love blood."

A black and white photo was handed into court, faintly showing a mark on the man's neck, just under his left ear. The skin was not broken.

Defence solicitor, Valerie Corcoran, said Kruzel's instructions to her were that she didn't want to hurt or cause harm to the man.

"She had a lot of drink taken. I don't know why, but she thought he liked her. She says she did what she did in an

affectionate manner," Ms Corcoran submitted.

"That's a new one. Are you saying she intended to give him a love bite?" Judge Fahy asked.

Sgt Rodgers discounted this, observing the taxi driver was a middle-aged man.

Ms Corcoran put her client's action down to the level of her inebriation on the night.

Judge Fahy became concerned that the taxi driver's identity might become known through the media.

"The impression is that she was giving him a love bite, but that is not accepted by this court or by the State. The fact that he was a middle-aged man doesn't matter," the judge said.

Ms Corcoran agreed.

"The man was giving a service and acting completely professionally. My client lunged at the man and bit his neck, completely inappropriately. I can understand why he's not in court. The man is completely innocent.

"He dropped her home and correctly went to the Garda Station to report the incident because it was clearly inappropriate I do not think there was any badness intended," the solicitor said.

Kruzel, she said, is a Polish national now living and working in Germany for the last five years.

"She can't understand why she did this and she forgot about it after moving to Germany. It came to light when she returned here to visit a friend."

Sgt Rodgers confirmed there had been no conversation between the taxi driver and Kruzel before the attack happened.

Judge Fahy said it was important to note that, as there had been cases before the court in the past where inappropriate conversations had taken place, that was not the case here.

Judge Fahy said she would apply a monetary penalty and the taxi driver should be contacted to see if he was interested in getting compensation from his attacker.

Ms Corcoran informed the court her client's phone and wallet had been stolen from her on the evening she was





arrested at the Spanish Arch and she had no money on her.

Kruzel said a friend would have to send her money to pay for her fare back to Germany.

She admitted she had not reported the phone or wallet stolen to Gardai.

Judge Fahy said she didn't believe Kruzel and in light of her comments, she said she didn't believe the taxi driver

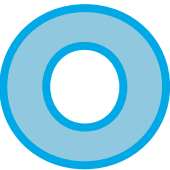
would be interested in compensation either.

Taking into account the fact Kruzel had no previous convictions, Judge Fahy sentenced her to three months in prison for the assault and suspended the sentence for 12 months on condition she be of good behaviour and remain sober in public. Leave to appeal was granted.

Ms Corcoran assured the court her client would be going back to Germany.

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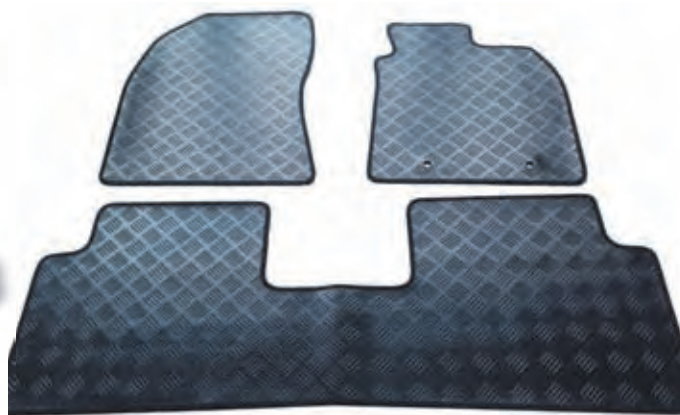
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# A Dublin youth has been sent forward for trial over a violent taxi hijacking in Dublin.

The driver, a 59-year-old man, was taken to St James's Hospital by ambulance for treatment to serious head and facial injuries sustained at approximately 1am on May 5 at Rutland Grove in Crumlin.

**H**e received several blows, was dragged from his car and a phone cable was used in an attempt to strangle him, it has been alleged. The now 18-year-old youth was charged with assault causing harm to the driver, criminal damage, unlawful seizure of his car and robbing him of €50, the court heard. He was aged 17, a juvenile, when he was charged.

The teenage boy, who is in custody on remand, appeared before Judge John Cheattle at the Dublin Children's Court where he was served with a book of evidence.

Judge Cheattle acceded to the Director of Public Prosecutions' request to send the youth forward for trial to the Dublin Circuit Criminal Court where he will face his next hearing on November 8.

Earlier, it was held the case was too serious to be dealt with in the Children's Court and it had to be returned for trial to the Circuit Court which has tougher sentencing powers.

In evidence, Garda Gary Cleary alleged the taxi man collected two males and two females and drove them to Rutland Grove.

It stopped and a teenager in the front passenger seat "punched the driver a number of times".

Another passenger used a suspected phone charger cable and attempted to strangle the driver, the Garda alleged.

He was punched repeatedly and "dragged" out of the car and assaulted as he was on the ground, the court heard.

Garda Cleary said the driver was bleeding heavily and was hospitalised for three days. He was bleeding heavily and suffered a broken nose.

Footage of the incident was captured on an internal camera in the car and was shown during a preliminary hearing.

The court heard the boy had also spent two periods in secure care units because he was a danger to himself and others. His mother had addiction problems and he was "at the highest end of vulnerability".

The court heard he had a traumatic life and this led to care placements breaking down. He had been staying in an emergency shelter hostel at the time of the taxi robbery.

His solicitor had said the youth had taken drugs at the time of the incident and intended to plead guilty. However, jurisdiction was refused.

Another male is before the adult courts in connection with the incident.

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## KNIFE-POINT TAXI ROBBERY

A taxi driver has been left badly shaken after being threatened with a knife during an armed robbery in Ballymena, police have said. The armed robbery happened at around 12.30am on Tuesday after two men got into a taxi in the Spence Crescent area.

**W**hen the car stopped to drop the two men off in Dunclug Park, one of them took out a knife and demanded money. Both suspects then made off on foot with cash.

A 21-year-old man has been arrested in connection with the armed robbery and is in custody.

PSNI Detective Sergeant Crothers said: "This was an

extremely distressing time for the taxi driver who has been left badly shaken. No one should feel unsafe in their work environment.

"I would ask anyone who was in the area between midnight and 12.30am and witnessed anyone acting in a suspicious manner to contact detectives at Ballymena PSNI station on the non-emergency number 101, quoting reference 31 01/10/19."

# RACIST ATTACK VIDEO GOES VIRAL

**A 42-YEAR-old man accused of racially abusing and attacking a taxi driver in Dublin after a video of the alleged incident went viral online, is to plead guilty at the earliest possible date, a court has heard.**

**C**live Mason, from Kerry but who has an address at The Close, Robswall, Malahide, Dublin faced his second hearing when he appeared before Judge Bryan Smyth at Dublin District Court today.

Judge Smyth rejected pleas from Mr Mason's solicitor to reverse an earlier ruling in which he had refused jurisdiction for the case to be dealt with at district court level.

Declan Fahy submitted today that the complainant's GP had indicated the taxi driver had soft tissue injury for a number of weeks. Mr Fahy argued that the injury was fully investigated but the man had not needed a MRI scan, and there were insufficient grounds to send the case to the circuit court, which can impose lengthier sentences.

Mr Fahy asked the judge to note his client had co-operated with gardaí and he made a statement.

Urging Judge Smyth to reconsider, the solicitor said his client is to plead guilty at the earliest possible date.

Refusing the application, Judge Smyth said he had already considered all that as well as the "surrounding circumstances" when he refused jurisdiction in July.

"I do not propose to reverse that," he told the defence solicitor.

A book of evidence was then served on Mr Mason whose case was sent forward on indictment. He was remanded on bail to appear at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court on 8 November next.

Mr Mason spoke briefly to say he understood when cautioned that he must notify the prosecution if he intended to rely on an alibi in his defence, and as he confirmed his signature on his bail bond.

He was charged with assault causing harm to Samuel Banjoko Johnson, who is originally from Nigeria,



endangerment of life and making off from a taxi without paying a €16.20 fare, at Malahide Road in Donnycarney.

It was alleged the driver was repeatedly called nigger and punched by a passenger he picked up on the night of Easter Sunday 21 April last.

## **Evidence**

Evidence was given by Garda Andrew Fox of Clontarf Station during a hearing in July.

He had told Judge Smyth that Mr Mason was charged on 27 June after he was met by appointment at Clontarf Garda station. "He made no reply to charge after caution," he said.

The Director of Public Prosecutions had directed "summary disposal", for the case to be dealt with at district court level. However, Judge Smyth held it should be sent forward to the circuit court after he heard an outline of the allegations.

The driver, Mr Johnson, did not understand and it was alleged Mr Mason then became "aggressive and angry".

Judge Smyth was told the accused asked, "Did he deny his position as a nigger, then called him a nigger on a number of occasions".

The taxi driver stopped the car, having avoided a collision. The court heard he received a number of punches to the left side of his face and it was alleged the accused shouted "drive me home you nigger cunt".

Garda Fox said the driver received soft tissue injuries and he furnished the court with a medical report.

Judge Smyth noted the report said he had been diagnosed with concussion. He went to his GP two days later and was referred to Beaumont Hospital, the court heard.

Judge Smyth had said having heard an outline of the alleged facts and having considered the report and observations, he was refusing jurisdiction.

# Inappropriate Remark Leads to Licence Removal

A 42-YEAR-old man accused of racially abusing and attacking a taxi driver in Dublin after a video of the alleged incident went viral online, is to plead guilty at the earliest possible date, a court has heard.



**N**dongala Malanda of Barr Na Bhaile, Passage West, Co Cork, appealed against the removal of his public service (PSV) licence at Cork District Court yesterday.

However, after hearing the evidence from both sides Judge Olann Kelleher upheld the Garda Superintendent's decision to remove the taxi driver's licence.

The driver rejected the evidence of the woman and said he did not say the things she alleged.

The 25-year-old woman was out socialising on the night and had six to eight drinks and got into the first taxi in the queue at Washington St at 3.30am on April 6.

She said there was chit-chat about the night at first but by the time they crossed Patrick's Bridge and were travelling up Bridge St, he began to make inappropriate comments.

The woman told Sergeant Stephen O'Shea at Cork District Court, "He asked me was I single. I was surprised at the question. I said yes. He asked me to bring him to my bed. I said I only had a single bed. He said, 'I will buy us a bigger bed'. I said no.

"He continued to make comments. I could not make out what he was saying but the way he looked at me, the way he made me feel, they were inappropriate," she said.

She said that he asked her to meet him the following day and she said no and then asked could they meet the day after that and she said no again, paid her fare and

went into her house.

"I felt uncomfortable. I felt vulnerable. The following day I reported it to (local) garda station," she said.

Defence solicitor, Donal Daly, cross-examined the woman and suggested her recollection was foggy as a result of alcohol. She denied that.

In a submission at the close of evidence in the appeal, Mr Daly said, "This is a serious allegation and a man's livelihood depends on this. He has a wife and three children."

The 52-year-old has been living in Ireland for 20 years and working as a taxi driver for the past 10 years.

During his own evidence in support of his appeal, the taxi driver said, "This is not me."

He also said if the woman had proof, such as a recording of the disputed conversation, she should bring it court.

Judge Kelleher concluded, "I accept he was doing his job on the night. I have to allow for some possible misunderstanding on the English language.

"The allegations by this lady are that she felt the questions he asked made her uncomfortable and vulnerable," he said.

"I take the view this was inappropriate by someone in a position of complete trust as a taxi driver. I do believe her evidence I feel his behaviour is inappropriate, dangerous and puts people at risk – people who are paying fares. I reject his appeal against revocation of his driving licence."



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# THE FRAMEWORK OF BUSINESS FOR TAXI STATUS, DRIVER CARE AND SKILLS

BY DERRY COUGHLAN OF THE CORK TAXIMENS' ASSOCIATION.

My recent article on “Powers of a driver of a public hire vehicle” – “Duties of drivers of public hire vehicles” – “Rules for passengers in public hire vehicles,” extracts from the PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLE REGULATIONS, to be revised and updated, drew a lot of attention.

I had a taxi-driver from New York, London and Belfast, who were very surprised with the neglect to legal forms of business organisation and ergonomics in the taxi transport arrangements, all said, this will have to be brought to the Authorities attention, as they are now experiencing the same problems, at least it would “cut out bilking” and the non-payment of fares (attacks on drivers). When they won't listen to the Taxi-Drivers representation, but are guided or shall we say misguided by the Quacks, then you have no defence, so we must police the business ourselves, and educate all the new entrants, as it is all about teamwork. Policing the Taxi-Drivers brings a better understanding of trade practises, quality in business, less stress and keep drivers in good humour, plus meeting the variable needs of the travelling public. No one wants to be a “taxi-screw,” but we must be presentable in public places and uniformity with our hirings which drives the market place, if you confuse the public in business, then your “turnover” will decline! The Compliance Officers will only instruct you with a fine or a warning, again because of the courts sticking their noses in. Appearance of your business means a lot to your City, Promotions and impressing people in what's available, also style and comfort is expected of the taxi service etc. Always check your passengers for their requirements, help and assist with luggage and disability etc. When you meet

people/ passengers – hiring your taxi –always get into their channel, it makes a pleasant journey and spreads the sales promotion of our business with reliability. We must set out the fairness principle and achieve our equality of income for drivers, it's all about teamwork to give the service. Effective communication on taxi ranks with instant hire or with the pre booked ordering of taxis through cab office bases and mobile phone app screen etc. Tourism is an ideal industry supporting taxi-drivers at mainly Airports and Ferryports, it is no longer a short season Venture, but a great financial turnover for taxis. The taxi representatives at present are helping the growth of this industry, which was once damaged by political unrest in Ireland and a world wide recession combined to suffer losses in the provisions made. Before deregulation, the taxi drivers entertained visitors to our country and they always returned, but nowadays with car rentals, coach tour operators and boarding agents have taken over, without the nature of production, these visitors don't return anymore, particularly noticeable in golf, fishing and camping etc. Factors determining the regularity of taxi business – physical distribution policy is to have the product in the right place (taxi ranks) at the right time (order offices) in the right condition (vehicle) for the right price (economical fair). Cost and level of service to the buyer are the critical factors in any transport policy. As we are unhappy with the Administration Regime at



present in achieving our goals, with taxi- driver numbers increasing and “Mobility Vehicles” freely coming on stream, plus the oversupply with the redundant vehicles in some counties. As we are licensed to invest on behalf of the state, the function of politicians must play its part here, in this survival and standard needed. Politicians should be Consulting Agents for all activities in our state and keep in touch with requirements in life (survival and living equipment etc.) Civil servants should be made responsible for all forms of Legal Business with the support of Communication and Administration from the different zone elected politicians - The tasks in an Office and Development in Modern Times, then we would not have a continuity of our problems in the taxi trade. The Resources Available must become constant and in all cases the framework binding in Statutory Instruments of Legal Preparation and Enforcement. The system for politicians will have to be changed, because they are not qualified for what they are doing at present, thus Senior Civil Servants (property, staff, community services, regulations and compliance etc.) should be licenced for each charge hand departmental role, given the Law of Contract to be administered nationally, etc. We come under the Service Industries, the Irish Civil Service and Local Authority Administration which is based on the former British model, but rebuilding these institutions within our Political Environment to its correct

interpretation is going to be a problem when it comes to the Business Framework our taxi operations need! (prestige operators with legal standing – statute law implemented for once and for all). It seems we may have to return to the controls and administration of the Garda Public Carriage Offices, re-established again around Ireland, to cope with the development of modern businesses, planning and transport modes, etc.

Next, I am going to go through some topical issues surrounding your job. (1) “Managing the Balance of Payments” - Operating a business through the Exchange Process, the custom is you never take money out of the cash register, thus your week should start on Mondays and end on Sundays. In the meantime you should not take the money out of the kitty unless your week is finished, customary the method, but it works out better in earnings, spending and disciplines yourself for better profit margins etc. (2) Taxi- Driver protection “Code of Practice” in the workplace must be honoured like many countries do! Your driving license should not be affected by your work problems/ offences as a taxi-driver, i.e. “penalty points” should not apply to taxi-drivers (outside E.U. Regulations) with Insurance Companies jumping on the “bandwagon” with this issue also for financial gain. (3) Taxi-drivers should be exempt from “Penalty Points” as it can affect their employment or business occupation- our work demands certain activities in performance- being



stressful - cases must be exonerated as the actions are not deliberate - part of the job, supporting the work rights, conditions and fairness/operational principle. This is an unnecessary addition to the fine, a lot to do with Self-Regulation and the Governments secret intake, not mentioned in our annual budget or even spent on the public services. The "Broker" quoting cheaper than the "Insurer" is also questionable by this overcharge to the operator. (4) Should there be standard vehicle design and capacity manufactured for the International Taxi Production, can we cope with change and service the traveling public in the "Single Fare" distribution. What kind of motor vehicles and power supplies are going to confront us, over our 21st-Century Digital Revolution, is now threatening to turn parts of our political economy upside down, in a manner that politicians and voters seem ill-equipped to handle. Car manufactures are producing a wide range of mobility vehicles – Wheelchair access – Why not manufacture a vehicle for passenger carriage by the same scheme, for the Public Hire Market. (5) Insurance costs, everyone complains, drivers have abused this issue and gave follow-up example. One time Public Hire Insurance was confined to one or two companies which controlled the premiums for the full-time taxi-drivers and we had "no cost" increase problems. But as the business developed and a vast number of extra vehicles came on the road, "Step inside you merchants", entered the fray, offering reduced insurance rates, with attractive deals, but no protection, when a claim came in, they paid out, but were delighted to give you now, an over-cost premium, they are a "bag of tricks". Judges were the first day cause of this scam with public hire insurance, helping solicitors to their profits. Nowadays insurance companies keep away from the courts, but take liberty to pay-out at your expense – this was never the purpose of insurance as some countries in the world don't even entertain this scandal. It's the duty of our state to protect you against any fraudulent activity in law functions! In most countries, the public services are very well protected, no way would this scam be allowed. (6) Watch out for "clothes dirt" from passengers, "little people's health risk." Dust mites in the interior of your vehicle, beware of this that come off the passengers clothing or luggage- they bring it in with them and it falls

off in your vehicle (floor carpet and seating), especially those off aeroplanes. Always examine and clean this out, they are very small particles, barely noticeable, but carry various diseases, this is generated from air-conditioning mainly - the danger is the "flesh dirt" are the problem- the transfer disease issues - this is why taxi-drivers at an early-stage "fold up" or even go to their "death-sleep" worldwide. (7) When you are getting your taxi serviced or repaired, always "power off" your taximeter, the same applies when "jump-starting" your vehicle or another vehicle. Never reverse your taxi especially in darkness or obscurity, always get out and check your surroundings, as the highest number of damages done to taxis are in this manoeuvre. (8) Always keep your Receipt Printing Equipment in working order with paper roll inserted; otherwise, you may damage your taximeter. Hybrid cars have internal air supply drive vents (under rear seating), which must always be kept clean and free. Electric cars will only give you the specified mileage, when you are not using the heaters, lights and air-conditioning etc. Childish displays in our taxis is the cause of a lot of attacks on taxi-drivers, they must know who you are, but you don't know who they are! We have no FARES CARD with charges or condition of hire- highlighting the taxi meter reading is the legal payment recorded, not that APP route and fare estimated display. Want more miles per gallon, then use "Goodyear Efficient Grip", M&S tyres, check the website for this confirmation. Finally we don't want the taxi industry to develop into a racket, the multi-owners and dispatch operators should keep out of drivers survival practices, again it re-occurs that we have too many taxi vehicles in the larger cities- the wheelchair vehicle issue is going to cause serious problems, and that's a pity, because we were only after balancing all the taxi functions and requirements- reaching the business quota and financial income for everyone. Again we must look for a "Cap on Licenses" until further notice. Keep in touch with the Taxi College until we obtain a legal programme with our licences, etc.



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# WORLD NEWS

## TOP STORIES FROM AROUND THE GLOBE

### PARIS

Paris is testing out a new form of travel: an eco-friendly bubble-shaped taxi that zips along the water.

Organisers are holding test runs on the River Seine this week as the white, oval-shaped electric hydrofoil boats that resemble tiny space shuttles glide past Paris monuments.

They can fit four passengers and, if approved, could be ordered on an app like land taxis, shared bikes and other forms of transport.

The designers hope to run the so-called SeaBubbles commercially in Paris and other cities starting next year.

Anders Bringdal, SeaBubbles chief executive, said: “The most important for us is no noise, no waves, no pollution. And bring them into cities that are congested.”

He said the water taxi will “not only be fun” but also makes economic sense.

“If you compare a similar size boat with an engine, you are going to run 30, 40, 50 euros an hour in fuel cost when this one costs you 3 dollars or 3 euros,” he said.

Proponents see the vehicle as a new model for the fast-changing landscape of urban mobility.

### UK

One in every 100 workers in England is now driving a minicab or taxi following the Uber revolution, government figures suggest.

There are now some 362,600 licensed drivers of taxis or private hire vehicles on English roads, a rise of 50 per cent since the mid-2000s, the data shows.

The rise comes despite concerns over the gig economy and zero-hours contracts, and is believed to be fueled by the rise in popularity of minicab apps such as Uber, which allow drivers freedom to choose their own hours and passengers.

Figures suggest the increase is based on minicabs booked in advance via online apps or over the phone, as opposed to taxi cabs hailed on the street, which has seen an overall decrease in

the past year.

Uber, launched in 2012, allows drivers who use the app to log on or off whenever convenient and drive at hours that suit them, making it a popular method of adding a second source of income to households.

The one in 100 statistic comes as separate data shows the working-age population to be about 34.3 million, The Times reported.

Despite the income boost to drivers, critics point to the rise in congestion and pollution following the minicab boon.

London mayor Sadiq Khan announced that all minicab drivers would be forced to pay congestion charges and the daily ultra-low emission zone fee to operate in central London.

The figures come after the government commissioned a review into the industry amid concerns over regulation.

In 2017, Transport for London withdrew Uber’s licence over fears about passenger safety and driver vetting.

Nearly 1 million people signed a petition demanding the decision be reversed, forcing TfL to give the American firm a 15-month licence, which was extended this week until the end of November.

Uber says that it has increased safety features and better protections for drivers.

Steve McNamara, general secretary of the Licensed Taxi Drivers’ Association, said yesterday: ‘The number of private hire vehicles across the country is a major problem.

‘Most of the drivers are earning less than minimum wage and having to work extraordinarily long hours to keep the wolf from the door.

‘Report after report has also identified how private hire vehicles, particularly in London, are a major cause of congestion.’

### AUSTRALIA

A Sydney taxi driver has been accused of sexually assaulting a woman after friends put her in a taxi home at the end of a night out

A Sydney taxi driver has been arrested and charged with





allegedly sexually assaulting a female passenger who was trying to get home after a night out.

A 22-year-old man was arrested yesterday at Granville Police Station following inquiries into the alleged sexual assault that occurred earlier this year.

At about 11.30pm on April 25 a woman was placed in a taxi by her friends outside a hotel on Elizabeth St, Surry Hills.

The driver then allegedly took the woman to a different location where he transferred her into a different car, a Mitsubishi Lancer.

He then drove her to a car park where he allegedly sexually assaulted her.

Once the alleged assault was over he then drove her to her home in Dulwich Hill.

She reported the incident to police and was taken to hospital.

Police launched an investigation and at about 7.40pm yesterday a 22-year-old man attended Granville Police Station and was taken into custody following inquiries.

Officers then attended a home in Bennelong St, Granville, and found a vehicle matching the one described in the alleged assault.

The car was taken for forensic examination.

The man was charged with sexual intercourse without consent and was refused bail to appear at Parramatta Local Court.

## CANADA

Why some Halifax councillors want out of deciding which taxi drivers get their licences back

A majority of councillors agree they don't have the tools to properly assess taxi licensing appeals, despite one councillor's objection to what he called a "reactionary" motion.

Halifax regional council voted 13-1 in favour of a motion from Coun. Wayne Mason on Tuesday to ask for a staff report "to recommend appropriate structure, composition and operation of an arm's-length external committee to adjudicate appeals" to the municipality's taxi licensing authority

Mason's motion stems from an incident last week when a taxi driver was charged with sexual assault just two months after council's appeals standing committee voted to give the driver his licence back following a suspension unrelated to the allegations.

"I'm not blaming anybody on the appeals committee, but I think we need to explore this alternative option," Mason said Tuesday.

"I think that we're getting caught up in the difference between having some sympathy or empathy and the narrow legalities that I think are supposed to be considered when you're doing an appeal of the licensing authority."

Mason proposed a committee of three to five citizens with "legal and administrative adjudicative experience" to handle taxi appeals.

"This will help increase the safety of women and vulnerable passengers as a priority, rather than employment of taxi drivers, and to create a new body with education and experience in the narrow application of administrative law in matters such as taxi regulation," Mason wrote in his reasoning for the motion.

Cllr David Hendsbee, the sole vote against Mason's motion, called it a "reactionary motion to placate certain pressures out there in the public."

"As a long-term member of the appeals committee, I take a bit of insult to this thing," Hendsbee said.

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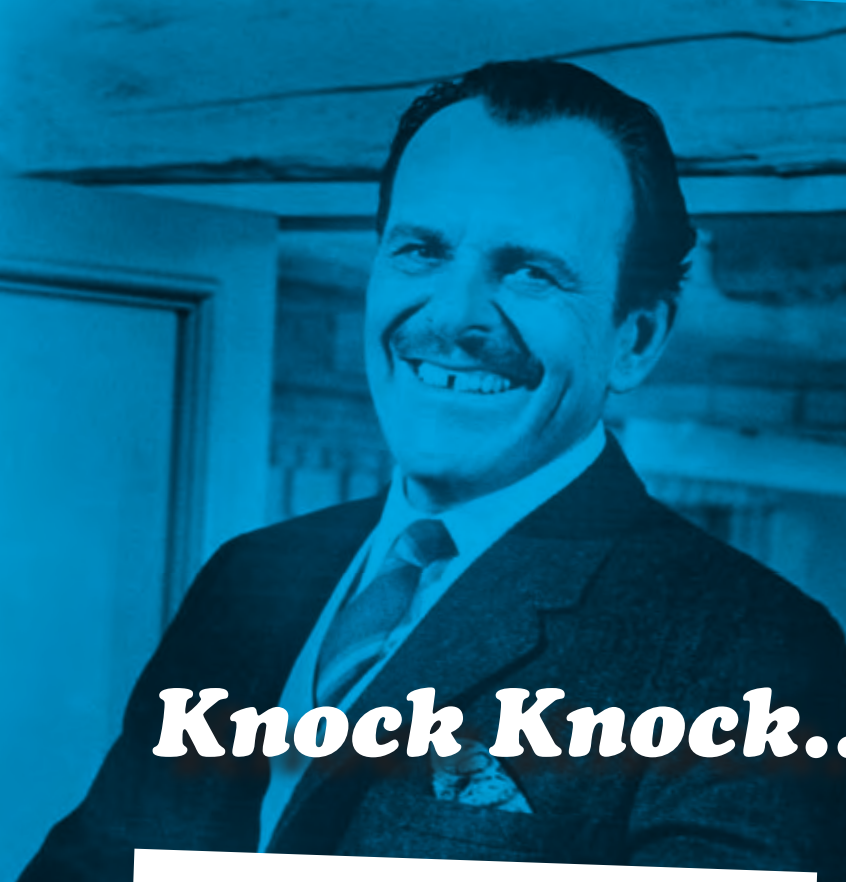
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# Knock Knock...

**Kid 1: "Hey, I bet you're still a virgin."**

**Kid 2: "Yeah, I was a virgin until last night."**

**Kid 1: "As if."**

**Kid 2: "Yeah, just ask your sister."**

**Kid 1: "I don't have a sister."**

**Kid 2: "You will in about nine months."**

An old man is met by his attorney, and is told he is going to be audited. He rides to the IRS office with his attorney, and when he gets there, he begins to talk with the IRS agent. "I bet \$2,000 I can bite my own eye!" The IRS agent agrees to the bet, believing it an impossible task. The old man laughs, pulls out his glass eye, and bites it. The IRS agent is dumbfounded. The old man bets \$3,000 he can bite his other eye. The IRS agent knows there's no way possible to do this, so he once more agrees. The old man cackles, pulls out his dentures, and bites his eye. Then the old man finally wagers, "I bet \$20,000 I can stand on the far side of your desk, pee over the desk, and get it into your wastebasket, without missing a single drop." The agent knows he won't be able to, so once more he agrees. The old man indeed misses, peeing all over the desk, and on the paperwork. The IRS agent jumps for joy, but then notices the attorney over in the corner moaning. "Are you all right?" asks the agent. "No! On the way over here, he bet me \$400,000 he could pee on your desk and you'd be happy about it!"

Three old friends got together and were discussing what movie they had watched when they conceived their children. One lady says she had just watched a movie called *The Search for One-eye Jimmy* and nine months later she gave birth to her baby. Another lady says, "Oh, I saw the movie *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* and then nine months later I had septuplets." The last lady gasps and exclaims. "Oh no. I just watched *101 Dalmations!*"

A blonde, a redhead, and a brunette were all lost in the desert. They found a lamp and rubbed it. A genie popped out and granted them each one wish. The redhead wished to be back home. Poof! She was back home. The brunette wished to be at home with her family. Poof! She was back home with her family. The blonde said, "Awwwww, I wish my friends were here."

A KERRYMAN drinks at the pub until they close. He stands up to leave and falls flat on his face. He tries to stand one more time and falls again. He figures he'll crawl outside and get some fresh air and maybe that will sober him up. Outside, he tries to stand up and falls flat again. He gives up and crawls the half mile to his house, crawls up the stairs and pulls himself into bed. The next morning, his wife stands over him shouting, "So, you've been out boozing again!" "What makes you say that?" he asks, putting on an innocent face. "The pub called - you left your wheelchair there again."

A policeman pulls a man over for speeding and asks him to get out of the car. After looking the man over the policeman says, "Sir, I couldn't help but notice your eyes are bloodshot. Have you been drinking?" The man gets really indignant and says, "Officer, I couldn't help but notice your eyes are glazed. Have you been eating doughnuts?"

## General Knowledge Questions

1. Which was the first film in the "Carry On" series?
2. In which country is the Graham Greene novel "The Power and the Glory" set?
3. In Norse mythology who or what was Mjollnir?
4. Which is the youngest of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World?
5. Which songs with "Run" in the title were UK top ten hits for the following artists,[a] Alvin Stardust (1984), [b] Chris Brown (2006), [c] Bobby Vee (1961), [d] MC Sar and the Real McCoy (1994) and [e] Rage (1992)?
6. What connects the Great Bitter Lake to the Small Bitter Lake?
7. Which rank in the Royal Navy is immediately above a Captain? Commodore.
8. In what modern day country is Mount Ararat located?
9. Who was the only US President to have been elected on four occasions?
10. By what name are members of the Porifera class of animals better known? .
11. The Kayagum (or Guyageum) is the national instrument of which country? .
12. Where did the 2014 Tour de France start?
13. What is the common name for the disease Variola?
14. Which French artist is generally recognised as the founder of impressionism?
15. Of which African nation are the following the capitals,[a] Praia, [b] Asmara, [c] Maseru, [d] Monrovia and [e] Juba?

# THE TACSAÍ MAGAZINE BUMPER QUIZ

16. Which fashion house produces the Guilty Absolute woman's fragrance? .
17. Which economic historian is credited with first coining the phrase "The Industrial Revolution"?
18. How many letters are there in the Greek alphabet?
19. Which sci-fi author was the writer of the "Foundation Trilogy"?
20. What, according to the Encyclopaedia Britannica, is the minimum number of floors for a building to be declared a skyscraper?

10. Sponges.  
11. Korea.  
12. (Leeds) Yorkshire.  
13. Smallpox.  
14. Claude Monet.  
15. [a] Cape Verde, [b] Eritrea, [c] Lesotho, [d] Liberia and [e] South Sudan.  
16. Gucci.  
17. Arnold Toynbee.  
18. Twenty-four.  
19. Isaac Asimov.  
20. Forty.

**ANSWERS**  
1. Carry On Sergeant.  
2. Mexico.  
3. Thor's Hammer.  
4. Pharos of Alexandria.  
5. [a] "I Won't Run Away", reached no 7, [b] "Run It", no 2, [c] "Run to Him", no 6, [d] "Run Away", no 6 and [e] "Run to You", no 3.  
6. The Suez Canal.  
7. Commodore.  
8. Turkey.  
9. F D Roosevelt.



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