

TEANGA GAN TEORAINN



With Peadar Mac Fhlannchadha

Deireadh seachtaine Gaeilge Ghlaschú

Tá Conradh Na Gaeilge Glaschú ag eagrú deireadh seachtaine Gaeilge ag tús na míosa seo chugainn, Dé Sathairn 2 agus Dé Domhnaigh 5 Meitheamh.

Beidh siad ag eagrú ranganna Gaeilge ag leibhéil éagsúla i rith an lae ar an Satharn agus beidh ócáid shóisialta acu oíche Shathairn sa Premier Inn, 80 Sráid Ballater, G5 OTW ag 8.00i.n. Cois Tine/Taigh Ceilidh is teideal na hócáide, oíche traidisiúnta agus Gaelach, Éireannach agus Albannach, le ceol, amhránaíocht agus damhsa. Beidh an amhránaí cáiliúil Kathleen MacInnes ag ceol ach de réir mar is gnách ag na hoícheanta cois tine beidh fáilte roimh dhuine ar bith páirt a ghlacadh agus tá siad ag moladh do dhaoine uirlis ceoil a thabhairt leo má tá siad ina ann port a sheinm.

Maidin Dhomhnaigh, beidh cruinniú tábhachtach den ghrúpa Gaeilge na Breataine ar siúl, seo grúpa a dhéanann comhordú ar obair na coistí Gaeilge éagsúla. I measc na nithe atá le plé ag an gcrúinniú seo tá todhchaí agus leagan amach spriocanna an ghrúpa féin.

Tá cuireadh tugtha do gach duine ar spéis leo cur chun cinn na teanga sa Bhreatain agus tá eolas breise le fáil ó www.cnag-glaschu.co.uk.

App nua do Raidió Rí Rá

Tá leagan úr den app chun éisteacht le Raidió Rí Rá ar d'fhón phóca ar fáil anois. Tá na mílte daoine tar éis feidhmchlár Raidió Rí Rá don iPhone a íoschóipeáil in aisce ó iTunes ó seoladh é ag tús 2010, agus is féidir le héisteoirí éisteacht leis

an gcairtstáisiún Gaeilge tríd an iPhone ag am ar anois, leis an app nua seo.

Is é Raidió Rí Rá an t-aon stáisiún a sheinneann ceol ó na cairteacha ar fad trí mheán na Gaeilge tríd an bhliain ar fad ar líne ag www.rrr.ie, le cláir á gcur i láthair ag an óige, don óige. Tá súil ag an cairtstáisiún go gcuirfidh app nua Raidió Rí Rá i mbarr 25 na gcairteacha íoslódála iTunes.

Dúirt Aodhán Ó Deá, láithreoir Raidió Rí Rá "tá Raidió Rí Rá ag dul ó neart go neart le tamall anuas agus theastaigh uainn feidhmchlár an stáisiúin a fhorbairt chun sin a chur in iúl dár lucht éisteachta iPhone. Leis an nuashonrú seo, táimid ag iarraidh ar éisteoirí a rá lena gcairde go bhfuil áis iontach cheoil agus Ghaeilge ar fáil dóibh ó Raidió Rí Rá gan costas ar bith, agus iad a spreagadh leis an app a íoschóipeáil in aisce ó www.rrr.ie/iphone/.

Tá obair idir lámha ag Raidió Rí Rá chun feidhmchlár Android a fhorbairt faoi láthair, tá an cairtstáisiún ag amharc ar fhéidearthachtaí dul ar an gcóras DAB agus tá siad ag dul i dtreo na teilifíse digití amach anseo chomh maith. D'eisigh Raidió Rí Rá Albam Rí-Rá i gcomhar leis an Irish Daily Star i mí an Mhárta, albam le hamhráin ó na cairteacha aistriithe go Gaeilge ag leithéidí The Rubberbandits, The Coronas, Fox Avenue agus eile.

Foclóir:

cáiliúil famous, uirlis ceoil musical instrument, tábhachtach important, todhchaí future, spriocanna targets, leagan úr new version, feidhmchlár application, neart strength, áis facility, deis opportunity

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BUSINESS IN FOCUS

DONEGAL BUSINESS

Hollie Kiernan catches us with the brothers behind the flourishing Donegal Pens business, to see how they created a successful pen-making business from the setting of their humble garden shed.

AT FIRST glance, the image of the two, young uniform-clad lads looks like any other brothers posing for a childhood school photograph. But what might surprise you, is that they are the brains, and the skills behind the very successful Donegal Pens, which sells handmade pens to consumers across the world.

Although the boys have only been creating the pens for just under two years, they are already well known, and receive orders for their beautiful pens from around the world. They have featured in various local and national papers in Ireland, as well as programmes like RTE's Nationwide, and TV3's Morning Show.

Brothers Ronan and Conor McGarvey, aged 14 and 11 respectively, began making their pens in the garden shed, which measures 16x8 foot, nearly two years ago. They have since been so inundated with orders, especially around the Christmas period, that their father is now having to consider investing in a bigger shed!

The entrepreneurial schoolboys first came across the idea for making their own pens when they were on a family holiday. They visited a traditional fair, where various arts and crafts activities were taking place.

"It started when we were away on holidays, a year and a half ago now. We were in Antrim, and there was a trad fair on and there was a man there called Geoff Tulip, making



handmade pens", Ronan explains.

The boys took an interest in Geoff's skills, and enlisted in an intensive training course to fine-tune their pen-making skills.

"We went to Geoff for a two day

course; he allowed and showed members of the public how to make pens, so Conor and I made our own pens with him, and it started from there", said Ronan.

Since the boys decided to make the pens on a large scale for business, rather than as simply a hobby, there has been no stopping them. They now have their own website, where people can view and purchase the wide array of pens that are available in different styles and in various types of wood.

Ronan talked me through the process of their creation, from cutting the initial piece of wood to completing the final masterpiece. The boys enlist the help of their father to cut the wood at the beginning, as, so they say, it can be quite dangerous!

"First, Dad cuts it for us on the



PROFILE

Name: Ronan Mc Garvey

Age: 14

Lives: Loughanure, Letterkenny, Co Donegal,

Business partner: Conor Mc Garvey, age 11, my brother

How long have you been in the business? We've been making pens since Sept 2009

What's your favourite hobby? Working with wood

What do you do to relax? TV, Xbox and cycling

Where do you hope to be in ten years?

I hope to be self employed running my own business.

What kind of music do you listen to? Pop and current chart music

Do your friends find it odd

that you run your own business? Not really – they are very supportive

Favourite football team: Celtic

Tips for others that are hoping to succeed in business?

If you have an idea, give it a try. If you think it will succeed keep with it and it's important to get the name out in as many ways as possible, especially if your business has a website.

OUR GUIDE TO YOUR POCKET

'S FINEST EXPORT

bandsaw, and then we have to drill a hole in the middle and we insert a wee metal tube into it, and take it from there."

Ronan admits proudly that, although it was quite a challenge at the start, both boys now have proficient pen-making skills:

"It was hard at the beginning, but we know how to make them really well now!"

The entrepreneurial pair source the majority of the materials needed for their pens from Ireland, and use a wide range of wood to create them that they hope will appeal to even the most discerning of consumers.

"Oh, we use all different types of wood for the pens" says Ronan, "like bog oak, ash, oak, olive and a few more besides".

The two have gained quite a cult following after appearances on television and in the papers, but it seems word of mouth has also played a large role in the growing success of the pen making business. Orders are placed via their website, and Ronan describes the visitors form

“
150 pens
was the
biggest
order we
have
gotten
so far”

different countries that frequent the website:

"Orders come off the internet, off our own website, around Ireland and England and even America, too."

Ronan may have a head for business and a bright future ahead, but he admits that the boys still put their schoolwork first before their pen-making business.

"We do our homework once we come home from school, as soon as we come in the door and then we go out to the shed for a wee while, just for an hour or two in the evening."

Even though the boys spend just an hour or two at work per day making the pens,



they manage to churn out up to 15 in one evening. The amount of time they spend making them depends on the orders that they receive, which can vary from one single pen, to a 'big' order of 150.

"How long we spend making pens really depends how many orders we get in, we do between 10-15 pens usually. 150 was the biggest order that we got so far."

The boys, who single-handedly run the business (with the occasional helping hand from dad, assisting them with the difficult cutting), have managed to maintain a good working relationship.

Despite spending so much time together, they rarely fall out. The boys also plan to continue working during the upcoming summer holidays, without the distraction of schoolwork.

They also have big plans for expansion, adding new ranges of pens to the website, including the recent addition of mechanical pencils.

The only way is up for these smart-thinking lads. With a flourishing business at their feet before they can even shave, they could be Donegal's answer to Richard Branson.

Funnily enough, however, Ronan harbours no particular business ambitions; he would prefer to pursue a career with wood. Asked what he'd like to be when he 'grows up', he said, "I might be a woodwork teacher or a carpenter, who knows!?"

For more information on the boys' pens, go to www.donegalpens.com

Tributes flood in for Cork poet Patrick Galvin

TRIBUTES have poured in following the death of acclaimed Irish poet Patrick Galvin last week, aged 83.

Galvin was arguably one of Ireland's most influential poets and writers, and literary colleagues and friends have paid tribute to the man and his work.

He was best known for the three-part memoir he penned which inspired the 2003 film 'Song for a Raggy Boy', starring Hollywood actor Aidan Quinn.

Galvin chronicled his life in the trilogy, beginning with his childhood in Cork, where he was born in 1927, then his experiences at a reform school in Daingean, Co Offaly, and in the final section as an RAF serviceman.

Heaney recives honorary degree from Strathclyde

POET Seamus Heaney was one of four Nobel Prize winners in Literature and Physics who had their achievements recognized through honorary degrees awarded by Strathclyde earlier this month.

Heaney, who was raised on a farm in County Derry, received his degree along with Physics Laureates Professor Claude Cohen-Tannoudji, Professor William Phillips and Professor Theodor Hansch.

Heaney, who studied at Queen's University Belfast, said: "This honorary degree means a great deal to me because of the nurture I have received over a lifetime from Scottish writers..."

"I have especially happy memories of a conference some years ago at the University of Strathclyde on the relations between Irish and Scottish literature."

Singer Enya celebrates 50th at castle home

MULTI-MILLIONAIRE and notoriously private singer Enya celebrated her 50th birthday last Saturday night with a private party at her luxury home, Manderley Castle in Killiney, Co Dublin.

In attendance were members of her family from Gweedore, Co Donegal including her father Leo who runs the famous Leo's Tavern.

Her sister Olive also made a surprise appearance, having travelled from Australia to be there on the day.

The star, whose wealth is estimated at \$94m, turned 50 on Tuesday. Security was tight around the castle, which Enya bought in 1997, with only a small number of specially invited guests present for her birthday celebrations.