

Tralee man told to leave town while awaiting trial

A TRALEE man who is barred by the courts from entering Shanakill estate has been ordered to leave the town after he was found in the estate by gardai.
Darren Gallagher (26) who has addresses at 19 Woodview Park, Tralee and 209 Shanakill, Tralee appeared at

Tralee District Court last week charged with four counts of contravening an exclusion order in Shanakill on September 13, October 13 and on November 14 and 16.
He was also charged with possession of heroin, possession of a knife and impeding a garda search under the

drugs act by swallowing a quantity of a substance believed to be heroin at Shanakill on November 14.
The alleged offences in Shanakill on November 14 occurred just four days after Darren Gallagher he was jailed in Tralee District Court for seven months for breach-

ing the exclusion order barring him from entering Shanakill.
He was bailed by the Circuit Court an hour after receiving that sentence and is currently appealing the severity of the sentence.
At Tralee District Court last week Judge James O'Connor

declined jurisdiction on the new charges and ordered that Darren Gallagher be sent forward for trial at the next sittings of Tralee Circuit Criminal Court.
He was released on bail on a number of strict conditions. He must leave Tralee and live with his sister in Ballybeg

Waterford. He must sign on daily at Waterford Garda Station and must notify gardai of any change to his address.
Judge O'Connor said Darren Gallagher was to enter Tralee under no circumstances other than for a court appearance.

Kerry grind school rated No.2 in country

By DÓNAL NOLAN dnolan@kerryman.ie

A KERRY grind-school has emerged second in the country of schools of its type for sending students on to third-level education.
Brookfield College's inclusion on the Irish Times list of third-level feeder schools this week comes as a major boost for the college at a time when enrolments for fee-paying schools appears to be falling nationally due to the recession.
Brookfield College is rated second-place in the Irish Times table listing the successes of grind-schools in the country in sending students to colleges and universities. 95 per cent of all Brookfield College students who sat the Leaving Certificate this year are now in third-level education, in

institutions across Ireland, the North and the UK.
The school was second only to Bruce College grind school in Cork City.
Owner Elijah Dowling told The Kerryman the school was delighted with the recognition.
"We're thrilled with it as it is recognition of the hard-work we've put in all along and the quality of education on offer here," he said.
The good news comes at a testing time for all private schools and Brookfield, as elsewhere, has been hit by the downturn. While Brookfield has not lowered its €5,400 annual fee in its attempts to weather the economic storm, it remains one of the two least expensive grind-schools in

Ireland.
"We have been hit of course, but I'm pleased to say that the numbers enrolling this year are actually up on last year's enrolment and appear to be holding their own.
"I think grind schools like ours have a lot to offer and it's significant that Kerry now has the second most successful grind-school in the country. We have excellent teachers and offer an environment in which students are encouraged and expected to perform.
"This is achieved with greater student-teacher communication and each student is assigned a teacher as tutor who meets with them regularly to help and assess their performance," Mr Dowling said.

Local group launches booklet to explain Down Syndrome

By GEMMA KAVANAGH

THE Kerry branch of Down Syndrome Ireland launched a new booklet, entitled 'Down Syndrome — What is it all about?' last week at the Malton Hotel in Killarney.
Geared for early teens and adults with Down Syndrome, as well as parents, siblings and professionals, the easy-to-read guide explains what Down syndrome is and what it means to have the condition. Topics covered include health and wellness issues through to helping the reader understand how they are unique individuals, separate to their condition.
The guide was produced and written by Down Syndrome Ireland's National Resource Team and aims to offer parents and people with Down syndrome the opportunity to talk about their disability, as well as empowering them with greater practical knowledge.
Speaking about the publication, May Gannon, counsellor with Down Syndrome Ireland



David Hingsburger (seated front) launching the 'Down Syndrome What is it all About' with (from left) Michael and May Gannon, Cathal Griffin, Denis Cronin Chairman Kerry branch Down Syndrome, Diarmuid Murphy, Risteard Pierce Secretary Kerry Branch Down Syndrome and Cllr. Donal O'Grady Mayor of Kerry at The Malton on Tuesday. Photo by Michelle Cooper Galvin.

said: "Down syndrome is a very visible condition. Parents need to be in a position to openly explain and talk about it as early as possible. We believe this booklet will be a great help to parents who need help starting this process. It will also help teenagers and adults with Down syndrome gain greater knowledge to help them overcome misunderstanding and negativity in the wider community."
The booklet is the first in a series and can be purchased online at a cost of €5 at www.down-syndrome.ie.
The launch of the booklet coincided with a two-day conference for professionals, family members and people with intellectual disabilities in Killarney's Malton Hotel.



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