

Weekend Break

A group of friends went away for a long weekend. They decided to go on a mystery weekend. They got to a small town which was called Walters Village. They had never heard of it. When they got to the hotel it was a big hotel, they checked in and got the keys to their rooms. The boys stayed in one room and the girls in another room.

Everything went well; they decided to have an early night, so they went to bed. After they locked their room door, suddenly the two lads heard some noise. One said to the other, "What on earth is that?" one of them opened the room door and he couldn't believe what he saw. He said to his male friend, "There is something very weird out in the corridor". What he saw was a man dragging a dead girl along the corridor so he decided to follow him to where he was going with the body.

His friend went around to see how your man got in to the hotel. He discovered there was no one around at all, not even a receptionist. He didn't know how your man got in. His friend found where he was leaving the girl's body, the man with the girl left and he went back to his room to go to bed. The friend came back to the room. They both talked for a while. They heard a lot of noise, very strange noise, they stayed quiet. The noise was getting louder, the noise passed their door. The two lads opened the door, what did they see? The girl turned into a Walker they couldn't believe their eyes! The Walker was one of their female friends. She was eating another live human, when she was finished she went off with herself and the two lads followed her. It turned out that she was the only one in the whole hotel. The two lads were terrified.

They left the hotel the next morning. When they went outside it was a different view altogether. They didn't know where they were. It looked like a forest one lad said it wasn't like this last night when we came here. They got into their car and left without their girlfriends, there was only one of the girls left.

The lads went off for the day and they came back late that night to the hotel. They decided to look for something to put The Walker in. They went out and they saw an old hen house so they went in. They put their eye on a coffin. One of the lads said "That's very strange to see a coffin near a hotel".. The other lad said "That's a good place to put The Walker in". They both said "We will have to find a way to drag her over to the coffin".

They put the rest of the human that she had been eating the night before into the coffin, so that The Walker smelled the human and went over to the coffin. As soon as the walker went over to the coffin the two lads knocked her in with a branch of a tree. They closed the lid of the coffin and hammered the lid with strong nails so that The Walker would never get out.

The two lads left the hotel and went back home to their family, safe and sound.

Liz.

Life with My Pigeons

When I was fourteen years old I started to keep racing pigeons as a hobby. A friend of mine gave me a pigeon loft. I started with 20 birds.

I used to go the local corn store in Coolock Village to buy my pigeon food. I now have 20 males and 20 hens to race in my local club against my friends' pigeons.

We all bring our pigeons in a basket to the Northside Pigeon Club, where we mark our birds before they go the race. The race is in Mallow. A truck collects the birds at the club at 7.30pm on a Friday. They are released in Mallow at 11.00am on Saturday. They will be released into a north east wind, and it will take them two hours to fly home to their lofts. A clock scans the birds when they arrive.

We have to bring our clocks back to the club. My pigeons will be recorded when I bring back my clocks. Each clock shows which bird went into the loft, and the time of arrival. The winner gets a trophy.

Terry Norris

Worksheet 1 Life with my Pigeons

Please answer the questions below.

Q1 At what age did Terry start to keep pigeons?

Q2 How many pigeons has he now?

Q3 Where does Terry buy his pigeon food?

Q4 In which club does Terry race his birds?

Q5 When are the birds released to start the race?

Q6 How long does it take them to fly home from Mallow?

Q7 How does the club know which bird won the race?

Worksheet 2

Life with my Pigeons

Please fill in the blanks

Terry was _____ years old when he started to keep

_____. He now has 20 males and 20 _____. He is a member of _____ Pigeon Club.

When there is a race, the owners bring their birds to the club in

_____. They are put in a truck and brought to M_____.

The following day they are released. It takes them ____ hours to ____ back home. When they return to their lofts, a clock records which bird has returned, and the time of _____.

The owners bring their _____ back to the club to see which bird has won.

The winner gets a _____.

Please write sentences which include the following words:

hobby

basket

collects

Word Search Life With My Pigeons

R T W R E O M S A H
E D E I F B B T R K
L S E K U X R C R V
E L N L S Y G E I D
A H C O N A U L V V
S H O N E O B L A J
E O L B A G T O L G
D E W I B K I C G C
L O F T S Y L P B O
R K T R O P H Y J H

Find the words

arrival	basket	club
collects	hobby	lofts
pigeons	released	trophy

A Brief History of the life of Antarctic Explorer Tom Crean

He was born near Annascaul Co. Kerry in 1877, and ran away to join the Royal Navy at the age of 15. While on the Ringarooma in 1901, he encountered Sir Falcon Scott who asked for his services on an Antarctic expedition. References to Crean are few in this expedition, but he was frequently assigned to sledge teams, sledging a total of 149 days, more than most expedition members. He obviously made his mark with Scott and was awarded the Royal Geographical Society Antarctic Silver Medal, and was also invited to serve as coxswain on Scott's next expedition. He was one of the few veterans chosen.

He joined this expedition in 1910, and was eventually chosen as one of Scott's companions to make the push for the Pole. Groups of men were turned back and eventually Scott told Crean, Evans, and Lashly that they would be returning to Base camp. Crean took the decision very badly but however they said goodbye to the polar party and turned for home. They faced horrible conditions and moreover Evans developed scurvy. After dragging him for several days Crean went for help travelling for 30 miles on 2 biscuits and 3 pieces of chocolate. The rescuers found Evans and Lashley alive. Crean was awarded the Albert medal for bravery.

Later, he formed part of a party that went to look for Scott and 2 weeks later they found the polar party dead in their tent. Their records showed that they had reached the Pole only to find that the Norwegian, Adamson, had got there a few days before them.

Crean's opportunity to return to the Antarctic came when he was selected as second officer of the ship Endurance under Sir Ernest Shackleton. However the ship became stuck in the ice and it soon became apparent that she was about to sink. The crew took to the lifeboats and made for Elephant Island, an

appalling journey through freezing temperatures and gale force winds. Now occurred without doubt the most incredible saga in Polar exploration. Knowing that they were completely isolated, Shackleton decided to go for help he chose the James Caird a 21ft lifeboat and was accompanied by 5 men, one of whom was Crean. They made for South Georgia, a journey of 800 miles and after 16 days suffering unspeakable hardship, they landed on the western side of the island. Shackleton, Crean, and Worsley then crossed the Island to the Norwegian whaling station. After rescuing their comrades they eventually made it back to Elephant Island to find that all the party had survived.

Crean saw war service and eventually left the Navy in 1920 turning down an invitation from Shackleton to join a further expedition. He and his wife opened a small pub in Annascaul, and he more or less faded into a life of obscurity, which was probably intentional because of the local attitude to the British Navy. He contracted appendicitis and died of an infection in 1938.

It is impossible to estimate the contribution that Crean made to Polar exploration. His courage and constant good humour were valuable assets on each of the expeditions that he was involved in, and he was rated extremely highly by both Scott and Shackleton. He is buried just outside Annascaul in a tomb that he built himself.

The inscription on the tomb reads:

Tom Crean Antarctic Explorer

1877-1938

Home is the sailor home from the sea!

What a Day

Sunday 24th April 2016 was the centenary of the 1916 Rising and we were in Croke Park for the Allianz Football League Senior Final between Dublin & Kerry. What an historic day, Dublin v's Kerry is always an exciting match and they didn't disappoint on the day. It was fast and physical and Dublin scored the first point, the roar from the crowd was deafening especially from the Hill, the atmosphere was brilliant.

During half time we were entertained by a choir from Presentation Secondary School Kilkenny; they were amazing. The second half started and Dublin were leading 0-10 to 0-8. Kerry struggled to keep up with the pace of Dublin and there were a few incidents, one where Kerry had a man sent off. Dublin scored two goals and ended up winning the match, the final score was Dublin 2-18 Kerry 0-13. What a fantastic match. Croke Park erupted as the Dublin players were presented with the League Cup and there was still more to come.

Laochra (meaning heroes) a pageant celebrating a great wealth of Irish culture through the ages began with over 3,000 people taking part. From the folklore of Cu Chulainn to the Children of Lir and our Ancient Celtic past, all those who fell during the 1916 Rising to the present day, it was a magical experience. During the show the audience were asked to hold up proclamations (which were on every seat when we arrived) to create the largest Irish Flag at an event. From folklore to singers to dancers it was an amazing show and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who were there.

WHAT A DAY

JOSIE

My Driving Test

January 2015 I decided to learn how to drive. I practised my theory test first before I could arrange lessons.

After completing my lesson I bought a car to practise my driving skills. I was nervous and it took me awhile to gain confidence as a driver.

Soon I began to relax and became more confident. I then decided to apply for my driving test. I sat this exam on February 12th 2016.

I was very anxious and worried as this was my first attempt and I had only been driving a year but I felt I had enough practise and confidence to attempt it.

It was a Friday afternoon I sat this exam. I was tested on my driving for thirty minutes. After my exam was completed my examiner and I arrived back to the test centre.

Even though I practised a lot and I had two pre-tests with my driving instructor I was still very unsure and worried I wasn't going to pass as I knew I made quite a few mistakes throughout the test.

I was very happy when my driving examiner told me I passed. I cried with excitement as I practised hard to achieve this. I will never forget the day I passed my driving test. It was the happiest day of my life.

Nikita

Worksheet 1

My Driving Test

Dictionary Work:

Look up the meaning of the following words and put them into sentences

Theory

Arrange

Anxious

Instructor

Achieve

Word Search

My Driving Test

O C K B E R A E L I K S
A R R A N G E X X T D K
K D V M A D R A D B R P
Y S R Z B E O M A U O P
R S L G A C T I C W F M
O E L W N I C N H O U I
E N G G X T U E I T E S
H I Q K I C R R E D W T
T P C S O A T V V M J A
O P A I U R S T E C G K
N A M M S P N K T P R E
L H K M O O I Q N F E S

Find the following words

Achieve

Anxious

Arrange

Examiner

Happiness

Instructor

Mistakes

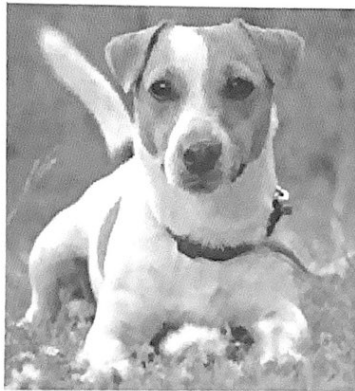
Practiced

Theory

My Dog Bob

My dog's name is Bob. I got Bob when he was 3 months old. He is 1 year old but he is still a small dog that is just the size he is. Bob is a Jack Russell. He barks at nearly everybody, especially my son's friend. We take him for walks and let him have a good run in the park, hoping that he does not get into trouble or run too far.

Sandra Chaney



Worksheet 1

My Dog Bob

Trouble

T__ouble

T__ _uble

T__ _ _ble

T__ _ _ _e

T__ _ _ _ _

Now cover the above and spell the word

Question: Please answer the following

Q1 What is the dog's name? _____

Q2 How old is the dog? _____

Q3 What breed is the dog? _____

Q4 Who does the dog bark at? _____

Book Review

This year I read a book called "The Boy in the Stripped Pyjamas, by John Boyne. This book is set in Hitler's war. It starts off with a little boy in Berlin. His father is very high up in the German army. When the allies are close the family move to Auschwitz.

This story is about a little boy and the friends that he makes. This little boy does not realise that he is in the war. Looking out of his window, from a distance, he thinks it is a holiday camp. He thinks that the people are silly marching back and forward.

When I was reading this book it was like looking from the outside in. I enjoyed this book because it made me look at the war from a different angle. Even though it is about a little boy, I think that this book is really for adults. If I was going to give it a star rating I would give it nine stars of ten.

David Hanlon

Greg's Story

I had a happy childhood. My Ma worked in the ESB and my Da worked as a bus driver. I loved sports and I played football for Artane Beaumont and I played hurling for Whitehall Colmcilles. I went to Pobal Scoil Rosmini, my favourite subject was metalwork. I played football and hurling for the school, we were a good team and we won a few trophies. When I left school I went to Colaiste Ide College, College of Further Education and studied Sports Fitness. Later I went to Killester College and studied alarms. I got a job putting in alarms for 5 years.

During my 5 years of working for the alarm company MTS, I was in every county in Ireland. I was let go from work and 4 weeks later I got sick. I had a brain haemorrhage, I was 24 years old. I was in a coma for 2 weeks. I stayed in Beaumont Hospital for 2 months. I started to improve with physiotherapy. I suffered because I could not walk (wheelchair bound). I started to improve every day. My relations came to visit me every day. The day I left hospital I walked to buy a newspaper. I was shattered. Before I left the hospital the nurses and doctors came to say goodbye. I left in a wheelchair.

I was glad to be home again. For the first few weeks I was very weak. My Ma used to bring me for walks around the park. I hated that I could not walk. I used the wheelchair in case I got tired.

It took two months to get back to full strength. I started walking every day, sometimes running. My friends knocked around every day for a walk. I was a good supporter of the Dublin team and started going to all the home games.

I started to do courses in Colaiste Dhulaigh, the courses were reading and computers. In Killester College I did an alarm course for a year. I did another electrical course for another year. I also did a woodwork class in my old school Rosmini at night.

I am doing well now; I am still doing reading classes with Colaiste Dhulaigh and I continue with my speech therapy sessions.

I manage an U18 soccer team with my Ma, Grange Woodbine. I go to all the Dublin GAA matches. I am joining Parnell's gym next month.

The brain haemorrhage was the best thing that happened to me because I don't drink or smoke anymore. I thank God that I am still alive to share my story with your.

Greg Orr

Book Review Three's a Crowd

By Sheila O' Flanagan

The start of the book didn't grab my attention. It was after the first ten pages that it became interesting.

The story is set in the Caribbean in modern times. There are three main characters in the book - Harry the groom, Jennifer the bride and Gloria the mother are the main characters.

Harry can never say no to his mother Gloria, which really annoys Jennifer. Jennifer does not get on very well with Gloria. Even though she is Harry's mother, she behaves like a teenager. As Jennifer would describe her, she is "mutton dressed as lamb".

The main story is about Harry and Jennifer's wedding. They had decided not to invite their families, just a few close friends. It all went downhill for Jennifer when Gloria turned up.

I would recommend this book to comedy lovers.

Denise



three's a crowd

This book is available in the Adult Literacy Office Room 306

Worksheet

Three's a Crowd

Answer the questions below:

Q1 Where is the story set?

Q2 What does Jennifer describe Gloria as?

Q3 What does Gloria think she is?

Q4 Who did Harry and Jennifer agree to invite to the wedding?

Q5 Who turns up unexpectedly at the wedding?

Q6 How many pages had Denise to read before she got into the story?

NALA STUDENT DAY

Every year NALA invites students to partake in a workshop. This year, Saturday 23rd April, it was held in the National College of Ireland which is in the Financial Centre of Dublin.

On arrival at 10.00 a.m. we registered and had tea and coffee followed by a welcome and introduction from NALA's student sub-committee. There were students there from all over Ireland, young and old and an even spread of women and men.

At 10.40 a.m. we had a most interesting talk from the former Governor of Mountjoy Prison, John Loneragan. His talk was about 'Everyday life tips, stay in good form and keep on top of things.' This was followed by a question and answer session on student's experiences of going back to education. I found this part of the event most informative. I also learned a lot from circulating among the other students. I got lots of information from them, such as how to break down spellings and other helpful advice.

Then it was time for lunch. This was delicious. I choose Coq-au-Vin and all the trimmings. After lunch there was a choice of five workshops ranging from technology to student issues. I choose the fun workshop. This was aimed at getting people to relax, mingle and talk about shared experiences. For me, this was the most interesting and helpful aspect of the entire day. I learned about the free phone line at NALA. These lines can be used when a student is doing homework. You can get advice from tutors who are very helpful.

I am very grateful to NALA and to Colaiste Dhulaigh and to all of the tutors for giving me the skills of reading and writing. When I started I was not able to read or write. I am very happy with my progress to date. This has opened up a whole new world for me. I am doing lots of reading and I buy a newspaper every day. I can now walk into a restaurant and order from the menu with confidence and enjoy my meal.

The NALA Student Day was a most wonderful day out and I would strongly recommend it to all NALA students. I can confidently say that I learned a lot that day and I met very friendly students.

Teddy O'Driscoll

Pigeons

I have been into pigeons since I was 12 years old. I got into them because my father was a pigeon man and a docker. He introduced me to birds when he brought 2 young pigeons home for a neighbour. The neighbour never got them because I kicked up a racket over them because I didn't want him to give the birds away. My Dad managed them 'til they were old enough to be strong on the wing and then he handed them over to me. I was responsible for feeding them, watering them and exercising them. When my Dad realised I was interested he brought home lots of other pigeons that he got from friends of his.

I started racing them when I was 17 years of age. I needed permission from my parents to sign forms because I was under age. At that time you needed to be in your twenties to put birds into races. I had no bird clock to clock the birds into after the races. I was given time to run to another man to use his clock to put my pigeons rings into. I still managed to win races. The prizes were trophies and plaques. My Dad built a new loft for me in the back garden. My best pigeon at the time would not go into the new loft. As a result he got attacked by a cat and the cat destroyed him. This really disheartened me, I never had a pigeon as good as him since.

The most pigeons I have had at the same time has been 22. I name the birds, if they are good, after the person that I buy them from. Pigeons are a great interest to have; they do take a lot of time and effort especially during the racing season. The racing season is from April to September. This year, I won a race from Penzance in Cornwall. My bird was the only bird clocked into the club that day. It can be an expensive hobby – you pay to put them into a race. It is also important to keep the pigeons healthy. If they are not flying well you have to send off swabs from their throats to a vet. This can cost €50 per pigeon. Feed is €22 a bag and that would only last about a week. If they are rearing chicks you need to buy extra food. Even so, I enjoy the sport. It is a great feeling when you clock a bird after a race when you know it has been a hard race.

Willie

The GPO is Ireland's General Post Office. It was designed by an architect called Francis Johnson. It was opened in 1818. It took 3 years to build and at the time cost £50,000.

Just before the Rising of 1916, the GPO had undergone extensive renovations and at the time boasted state of the art communications equipment and postal services. This is why it was used by the rebels during the Easter Rising of 1916. They wanted it to be the headquarters for their communications links to other rebels who were fighting in various parts of the city and country.

The GPO was bombarded with artillery fire by British Forces during the Rising of 1916 in an attempt to force the rebels to retreat or surrender. The only parts of the building that were left after the Rising were the walls. After the Rising the post office was relocated to the Round Room of the Rotunda at the top of O'Connell Street, which is now known as the Ambassador.

The GPO was rebuilt in the same spot and was re-opened in 1926. A statue of Cu Chulainn, a hero in Irish legend was placed in the front window of the building to commemorate the role of the GPO as the headquarters of the rebels.

To this day the GPO has always been used as a focal point for political and trade union protest marches and rallies.

On Tuesday the 29th of March 2016, An Post opened the GPO Witness History Museum. It is an interactive visitor attraction exhibition which involves guided tours, touch screen and sound technology. The museum is open every day from 9.00 am to 5.30 pm. Tickets cost €10 for an adult, €5 for a child or €25 for a family ticket, (2 adults & 2 children). The museum also houses a café and gift shop. The new centre will be operated and managed by Shannon Heritage.

For more information you can log on to www.gpowitnesshistory.ie or call 01-8169538

G Wynne

Worksheet
Questions

An Post

GPO Witness History Tour

Q1 What do the letters GPO stand for?

Q2 What is the name of the man who designed the GPO?

Q3 In what year did the GPO open?

Q4 How long did it take to build the GPO?

Q5 How much did it cost at the time?

Q6 At the time what could the GPO boast about?

Q7 Why did the rebels of the Easter Rising want to take over the GPO?

Q8 Why did the British Forces bombard the GPO with artillery fire?

Q9 What was left of the GPO after the Rising?
