



Tralee Times®

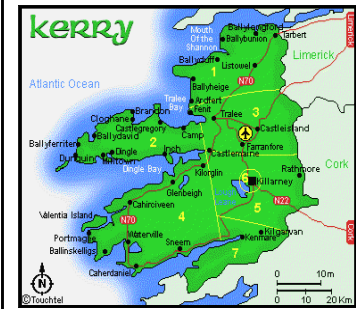
August 2009

www.traleetimes.com

Cycle-Routes and Pedestrianisation

Those of us who have had the experience of cycling on the roads of Co. Kerry will no doubt testify to the dangers of such an activity. Speeding vehicular traffic on narrow roads is commonplace.

A friend of mine commented on the fact that many foreign visitors to Ireland and to Co. Kerry who have chosen a cycling holiday are really putting their lives at serious risk in partaking of such an activity. Furthermore, the experience is unlikely to entice them back again.



The suggestion that a dedicated cycling route-way (or in some cases pedestrian routes) throughout the county be implemented and installed with an effective mapping system was suggested.

It does not mean that cycle lanes be installed on all these roads. However, it does suggest that certain roads or large sections of roads in rural areas are given over or prioritised for cyclists, with appropriate markings and speed limits to inform drivers of motorised vehicles that cyclists (or pedestrians) do have priority on such roads.

Most of the roads in question would, initially, be non-national rural roads which have a low volume of motorised traffic.

The benefits of such a scheme are huge. People in general will feel safer when cycling or walking on these roads. This will increase the use of these roads for cycling and walking. The health benefits of cycling and walking will be promoted. The tourism business which caters for cyclists and walkers would benefit also.

Both young and old would be safer on our roads and more particularly the tourist who wishes to part-take in such activities would be provided for in a much better way.

Promoting such a scheme would see the production of maps and signage for the roads as well as some educational programmes for both cyclists/walkers and drivers of mechanized vehicles.



In other parts of the country, where motorways have been built, the roads which these have replaced should be designated as or prioritised as cycle routes or pedestrian routes.

Roger Casement Inaugural Event

This event is to take place on Monday 3rd August from 10 am in the Mount Brandon Hotel, Tralee. All are welcome to attend this event which will include, speeches, lectures and analysis of the Casement link to Kerry. Continued page 5>>



Tree On Our Streets

It was suggested by an avid reader of *Tralee Times* that, it might be appropriate to plant trees along Denny Street. Denny Street is one of the most magnificent streets of any town in Ireland and adding trees there would enhance it even more.

What a Mess!

The recent Report of the Special Group on Public Service Numbers and Expenditures Programmes ('An Bord Snip Nua') has revealed what we were too alarmed, frightened and terrified to mention all along. The Government will probably fudge the issues that need to be dealt with, such as value for money and work practises in the public services. As most of us are aware there is too much duplication, wasted time, poor accountability and far too many people in the public services. This has been the case for many decades but it has been exacerbated in the recent past by successive incompetent governments whose only

solution to a problem was to 'throw money at it'. Yet now we will see the ordinary decent tax-payer on middle incomes bearing the brunt of their (governments) successive mistakes and poor judgment.

How can the public trust a government who are implicitly responsible for the problem, to be capable and competent to discharge their duty, their responsibility in remedying that same problem?

Tralee Royal Charter 1613

Some minor extracts of the forthcoming book, *The History of Tralee, It's Charter and Governance* by Gerald O'Carroll can be seen on page 6 >>

I will be placing images from the text on the www.traleetimes.com website soon.



All-Ireland Football Championship

Kerry doing enough to defeat the 'weaker' counties and not peaking too early or are the 'high-mileage' legs just too tired?

For what it's worth, I think the depth in talent and experience of the team will prevail.

Are We Over-Represented Politically?

Do we really need all these public representatives in the Dail, County Councils and Town Councils?

For more on this go to page 5 >>>



Are You connected....Yet?



OECD unemployment rate rises to 8.3% in May 2009

The unemployment rate for the OECD area was 8.3% in May 2009, 0.3 percentage point higher than the previous month and 2.4 percentage points higher than a year earlier.

In the Euro area, the unemployment rate was 9.5% in May 2009, 0.2 percentage point higher than the previous month and 2.1 percentage points higher than in May 2008. For the United States, the unemployment rate for *June* 2009 was 9.5%, 0.1 percentage point higher than the previous month and 3.9 percentage points higher than a year earlier. For Japan, the rate was 5.2% in May 2009, 0.2 percentage point higher than the previous month and 1.2 percentage points higher than in May 2008.

In May 2009, the unemployment rate for France was 9.3%, 0.2 percentage point higher than the previous month and 1.7 percentage points higher than a year earlier. For Germany, the rate was 7.7% in May 2009, the same as the previous month and 0.3 percentage point higher than in May 2008. For Canada, the unemployment rate was 8.6 in *June* 2009, 0.2 percentage point higher than the previous month and 2.5 percentage points higher than a year earlier. In *March* 2009, the rate in the United Kingdom was 7.2%, 0.1 percentage point higher than the previous month and 2.0 percentage points higher than in *March* 2008. In *March* 2009, the rate in Italy was 7.4%, the same as the previous month and 0.8 percentage point higher than in *March* 2008.

The latest unemployment rates for other OECD countries and geographic groupings, as well as historical data, can be downloaded from the OECD online data dissemination facility *OECD.Stat Extracts* at:

<http://stats.oecd.org/wbos/Default.aspx?QueryName=251&QueryType=View&Lang=en>.

IrelandFact

In 2006, 88 per cent of people had something wrong with their water and in 2007 this was 85 per cent.

I suspect that should there be a serious attempt on the part of our government to introduce a **Water Charge** to all domestic consumers then there had better be a serious attempt to improve water quality.

Once such a charge, should it be introduced, is imposed then the consumer has every right to expect an efficient and super clean supply. The cost to local authorities of such a supply will be enormous. However, the potential litigation arising from an unclean supply might be even more!



Tralee Business and Tourism Network on

August 1, 1914 – First World War Erupts

Four days after Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia, Germany and Russia declare war against each other, France orders a general mobilisation, and the first German army units cross into Luxembourg in preparation for the German invasion of France. During the next three days, Russia, France, Belgium, and Great Britain all lined up against Austria-Hungary and Germany, and the German army invaded Belgium. The "Great War" that ensued was one of unprecedented destruction and loss of life, resulting in the deaths of some 20 million soldiers and civilians.



No 1 Hit Single 28th July, 1979 For 4 weeks *'I Don't Like Mondays'* Boomtown Rats

"No matter how rich you become, how famous or powerful, when you die the size of your funeral will still pretty much depend on the weather."

[Michael Pritchard](#)



Lighting Up Zebra Crossings or Pedestrian Crossings

In the dark and dreary nights of autumn and winter, particularly at the busy crossings, it can be very difficult for drivers to see pedestrians as they attempt to cross at pedestrian crossings.

There is a need to install efficient lighting, flood lighting, at these busy crossings in Tralee.

It would add to the visibility of the area and prevent certain accidents.

This is not a new idea as such lamination of crossings is quite common in other parts.



Summer 2009
near Barrow—Tralee Bay
Taken with my *Nokia E66*
e-mail your photos and we'll gladly publish them.
editor@traleetimes.com

WorldFact

Sweden's electricity consumption has been rising and it has one of the world's highest individual levels of consumption. Over 40% of domestic production is nuclear, and up to half hydro, depending on the season (affecting hydro potential). In 2008, Sweden generated almost 146 billion kWh, of which 42% was from nuclear (61.3 billion kWh).



Golfing in Kerry

Tralee Times website has a link to all golf courses in Co. Kerry.

See: <http://traleetimes.com/files/GolfinginKerry.html>

If you're wondering about what the weather is likely to be like we have added weather forecasts too. For more detailed weather over the past number of years we have, courtesy of Met Eireann, (Valentia Observatory) given detailed weather conditions for each month (2009 needs updating however!).

Check it out at: <http://traleetimes.com/files/weatherdetails.html>

Enjoy your game!

IrelandFact

Year	Number of Murders
1950	9
1955	4
1960	3
1965	7
1970	11
1975	23
1980	21
1985	25
1990	17
1995	43
2000	39
2001	52
2002	52
2003	45
2004	37
2005	54

Source:
Garda Síochána

Leaving Certificate—Top 10 Subjects 2006—2008 by numbers taking subjects at Higher Level

No.	SUBJECT	2006	2007	2008	Average
1.	English	30,445	31,076	31,793	31,104
2.	Geography	17,793	17,765	18,268	17,942
3.	Biology	17,048	17,523	18,322	17,631
4.	French	13,421	13,771	14,225	13,805
5.	Irish	12,948	13,831	13,994	13,591
6.	Business	12,857	12,670	12,154	12,560
7.	Maths	9,018	8,338	8,510	8,622
8.	Home Economics	8,202	8,349	8,754	8,435
9.	Art	7,440	7,529	7,862	7,610
10.	History	6,975	7,411	7,601	7,329

For more information see:

http://www.examinations.ie/statistics/statistics_2008/LCGrade_over_3_years.pdf

Full-time undergraduate students entering for the first time in 2007/08

Institution	Male	Female	Total
UCD	1848	2238	4086
UCC	1507	2381	3888
NUIG	1160	1519	2679
TCD	904	1713	2617
NUIM	672	899	1571
DCU	730	974	1704
UL	1005	911	1916

For all Irish Government sites and related websites go to:
<http://www.gov.ie/en/sites/>



This is the flag of which country?
See: www.traleetimes.com and find the link

HIGHER EDUCATION—SOME KEY FACTS AND FIGURES 2007-2008

University Sector

- Enrolment increased by 10.4% since 2003/2004, with an increase of 2.8% between 06/07 and 07/08
- Arts and Humanities disciplines once again attracted the greatest proportion (28%) of new entrants in 2007/2008
- Part-time enrolment constituted 10% of all undergraduate enrolments in 2007/2008 dropping from 11% from 2006/2007 and 2005/2006
- Female enrolment remains unchanged from 2006/2007 at 59% of all undergraduate enrolment
- Overall postgraduate enrolments have increased by 3.7% from 2006/2007 with the largest increase occurring at part-time (6.9%)
- Engineering, Manufacturing and Construction awarded the highest proportion of 1st class Honours in 2007
- The number of mature (+23) new entrants increased by 6.1% between 2006/2007 and 2007/2008
- NUIG remains the college with the greatest diversity of Irish students by province with 60.8% hailing from Connaught

For more see: <http://www.heai.ie/files/files/file/HEAFacts0708.pdf>

Rainfall (mm)—Valentia Observatory June, July, August—2000 to 2008

Year	June	July	August
2008	134.3	106.3	181.7
2007	131.4	81.1	103.9
2006	47.6	102.1	52.5
2005	87.7	71.7	83.7
2004	104.3	91.9	101.8
2003	146.9	125.9	25.3
2002	135.7	98.2	80.9
2001	71.0	72.1	122.3
2000	97.5	82.4	91.9
Average 2000—2008	106.3	92.4	93.8
Average 1961—1990	79.9	73.3	111.2
% of 1961-1990 Average	133%	126%	84%

Figures from www.met.ie and www.cso.ie

NOTE on Rainfall amounts

Please note that rainfall amounts and the calculation of Average or Mean amounts is taken over a 30 year period, i.e. 1960—1991.

The next period for calculating average Rainfall amounts is 1991—2020. While I have given the figures for 2000-2008, it is too early yet to make a judgment on whether or not the average Rainfall amounts will be greater in the period 1991—2020.

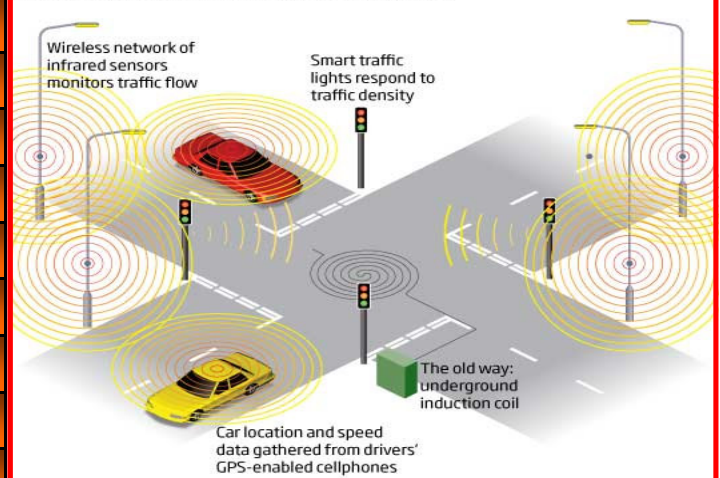
You can see the figures for Rainfall and Temperature for the Met Eireann facility in Valentia Observatory from 1991 to the present on:

<http://traleetimes.com/files/weatherdetails.html>

How new technologies will ease our traffic woes

The future of driving

Intelligent traffic monitoring will optimise journey times



BEHIND the wheel of a car, even the most good-natured people can become impatient, aggressive and reckless. That probably comes as little surprise: worsening traffic is making travelling by car an increasingly frustrating and unpleasant experience.

Take heart, there is a range of solutions on the horizon. A new generation of monitoring and data-gathering technologies could radically change the way we plan and drive our journeys. They should deliver more accurate information on traffic densities to help us avoid jams, as well as real-time advice on journey times and fuel consumption based on the way we accelerate and brake.

In-car monitors could even help especially safe drivers benefit from reduced insurance premiums, by demonstrating to insurance companies that they are at lower risk of accidents.

Most traffic monitoring today is done using wire induction loops which are buried under main roads to detect when vehicles pass. Installing these can be disruptive, so traffic authorities are hoping to build more sophisticated devices into existing road infrastructure without having to dig up the road.

For more:

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg20327176.400-the-roads-of-the-future-will-know-how-you-drive.html?DCMP=NLC-nletter&nsref=mg20327176.400>

If you have ideas, stories or comments, let us know.
editor@traleetimes.com

'Difficulties are just things to overcome, after all.'

Ernest Shackleton

Top 10 paperbacks Fiction

The Sunday Times
Bestseller List, July 12, 2009

- 1 **A Most Wanted Man**
by John le Carré
- 2 **Rumour Has It**
by Jill Mansell
- 3 **My Sister's Keeper**
by Jodi Picoult
- 4 **Sail**
by James Patterson and Howard Roughan

- 5 **The Beach House**
by Jane Green
- 6 **The Host**
by Stephenie Meyer
- 7 **The Brass Verdict**
by Michael Connelly
- 8 **Rogue**
by Danielle Steel
- 9 **Azincourt**
by Bernard Cornwell
- 10 **Scarpetta**
by Patricia Cornwell

http://entertainment.timesonline.co.uk/tol/arts_and_entertainment/books/article4304971.ece

BBC

BLOOM Environmental Information and Choices

For those of you who are interested in all things environmental, I came across, by accident, a very informative website by the BBC. It's worth a visit. Enter the following link in your browser:

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/bloom/>



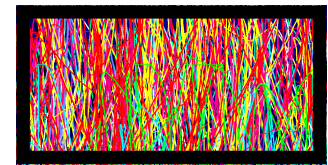
Sir Roger Casement



Tourism Ireland sees 21% increase in web visits by overseas tourists. New figures show that visits to the websites up to the end of June surpassed 5.9 million, a 21% increase in the organisation's web activity over the same period in 2008. In the month of June alone, there were over 1 million visits to the sites. This follows on from last year's record for www.discoverireland.com, when the sites attracted 10.3 million visits, a 54% increase on 2007.

<http://www.tourismireland.com/>

<http://www.discoverireland.com/ire/>



The **Inaugural Roger Casement** August Gathering takes place on Bank Holiday Monday, **August 3rd, 2009** at the Brandon Hotel from 10am. All are welcome to this historic event celebrating the enormous legacy of Roger Casement. The theme for the event is 'Roger Casement and Kerry'. In the extraordinary life and afterlife of Roger Casement, the Kingdom of Kerry holds a distinct position. At dawn, on Good Friday 1916, Casement, Robert Monteith and a third man landed on the beach at Banna Strand. Later in the morning, he was captured inside a ring fort and taken via Ardfert to Tralee, until orders were issued to escort him under armed guard to Dublin. In the subsequent weeks several of the ordinary folk who had witnessed his thirty-one hours in Kerry were paraded as witnesses in his public show trial in London. On 3 August 1916, Casement was executed as the sixteenth leader of the Easter Rising.

In the ensuing years a spiral of stories, mythologies, regrets and allegations about what happened and what might have happened welled up in the imagination of Kerry folk. The Roger Casement Summer School will consider the implications of Casement's brief spell in Kerry and the continuing politics of his memory.

Before devoting himself to the cause of Irish freedom, Casement distinguished himself as an intrepid investigator of social injustice and as a champion of the oppressed. His official exposé of crimes against humanity, committed by King Leopold II's administration in the Congo Free State, inspired an international humanitarian campaign. In 1910 he made a voyage up the Amazon to reveal the systematic mistreatment of native Amazonian Indians. Together these investigations locate him at the very heart of contemporary human rights' history. As he witnessed the effects of European imperial expansion on the periphery he sought refuge and hope in the advancement of the cause of Irish independence.

In his history *The Drama of Sinn Fein* (1923) Shaw Desmond said of Casement: 'Look well on this man, because he carries in himself the whole story of Ireland. Learn the secret of this man and you have learnt the secret of Ireland.'

Through discussion, song, film, storytelling and image, the Roger Casement August Gathering – which it is hoped will become an annual event - will re-examine and commemorate Casement's significance in Kerry and help explain his mystique and reveal some of the secrets shrouding his deeper meanings.

Among the contributors attending the event include Dr. Martin Mansergh, Mr Donal O'Sullivan, An t-Uas Sean Seosamh O Conchubhair, Mr. John McGuiggan, B.L. and Dr. Angus Mitchell – all of who have contributed to a greater understanding of the enormous legacy of Roger Casement

Are We Over-Represented Politically?

In this article I'll deal exclusively with Co. Kerry.

The Dail and TD's: Reduce the representation from 3 to 2 deputies in Kerry North and Kerry South. There should be no need for the 3rd TD if the other two are capable of doing the job properly. Total today 6.

County Council: Presently the County Council is divided into 5 electoral divisions. Dingle (3 elected), Killarney (7), Killorglin(5), Listowel (5) and Tralee (7). Total 27.

Reduce each of these areas to 3 representatives. Elect people who can do the work required!

Town Councils: Currently there are 3 Town Councils in Co. Kerry. Killarney (9 elected), Listowel (9) and Tralee (12). Total 30.

Divide each of the towns into wards (e.g. 3) and elect one councilor from each of the 3 wards. Total 3 councilors representing the towns of Listowel and Killarney and 5 representing Tralee (much larger population base). These 3/5 councilors would then represent their town in the County Council.

There would be no need to elect town councils.

County & Town Mayors: Each of the three towns elects a Town Mayor independently of the Town and County Council election candidates. The function of the Town Mayor being mainly ceremonial and non-political and for a full term. However, the independently elected Mayor in the County Council would have a chairman's role for the full term.

Reduction in number of Councilors: Presently there are **57** Councilors in County Councils and Town Councils in Co. Kerry.

This system, I propose would limit the number to 26 plus the Mayor or Chairman = **27**.

A reduction of 30 representatives

Such a system could be implemented nationwide.

NOTE: There is **no** need for Political Party affiliation in Local Politics



www.traleetimes.com has many local, national and international links on the Home Page
If you can suggest any ones that we could add, please let us know.

Ballyseedy Mill A 19th-century mill discovered during archaeological monitoring at Ballyseedy, Tralee, Co. Kerry. Ballyseedy Mill is located in the north-eastern limits of Ballyseedy estate, beside the entrance to Ballyseedy Castle. The evidence suggests that Ballyseedy Mill was deliberately dismantled after the mid-19th century, between 1852–1897. Griffith recorded the mill as decayed in 1852 and the mill does not appear on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1897. It certainly did not collapse as no volume of rubble masonry or tumble was recorded during the excavation. The notable absence of rubble or tumble indicates that Ballyseedy Mill was dismantled and that the stone may have been possibly reused in Ballyseedy House or indeed Elmgrove, both of which underwent substantial alterations and refurbishment works around this time.

The discovery of Ballyseedy Mill and the subsequent archaeological recording of it are a hugely important addition to the industrial archaeology of the Tralee area. This is the first time that a 19th-century mill has been excavated in Kerry. Its direct relationship via the Blennerhassett family to Blennerville and to the extant refurbished windmill there adds greater store to the importance of milling in Tralee in the early decades of the 19th century. Of particular importance also is that the surviving basal relict remains were preserved in situ with only the judicious reduction of the mill race arch and the mill pond wall being necessary.

For additional information: <http://archaeology.nra.ie/ResultsDetail.aspx?itemid=285d464f-1560-487b-8a01-c48c5831e1a4>

Tralee Royal Charter 1613



from History of Tralee, its Charter and Governance by Gerald O'Carroll

The principal purpose of the 1613 Charter was to ensure the return of two MPs to the Irish Parliament in the King's support. Robert Blennerhassett and Humphrey Dethick, the first MPs, were burgesses of the corporation, and Robert Blennerhassett the town's first Provost. The Charter also recognised the corporation's role in local government. There were twelve burgesses (Arthur Denny included) and they met on the nativity of St John to elect a Provost, whose installation took place each 29 September, the Feast of St Michael the Archangel. It became known as Corporation Day. The new Provost took the Oath of Supremacy, the religious test that excluded the majority population of Catholics. The framework was in place for the governance of Tralee until the Municipal Reform Act of 1840.

By an indenture made 10 May 1627 Sir Edward "granted to the Provost and Burgesses of Tralee the circuit and liberty of the Abbey, and all privileged places in the said Borough". A condition was attached: Sir Edward and his heirs would appoint a town clerk and have all the profits accruing to him. Sir Edward granted the provost and burgesses the tolls and customs of Tuesday's weekly market, as well as those of the annual St James's Fair held in August. (The majority population paid tolls; freemen paid none.) It is by no means clear that these concessions were Sir Edward's to make, and it is more likely that we are seeing the usurpation of the Charter by the Denny family.

Kerry Deaf Resource Centre INTERPRETER AVAILABILITY?

A number of colleges/ students have contacted our service to determine sign language interpreter availability for the forthcoming academic year. The **Institute of Technology** in Tralee may require the services of a sign language interpreter from Sept/Oct onwards- timetable will be made available shortly. **Pallaskenny Agriculture College** in Co. Limerick may also require an interpreter for 5 mornings a week with the possibility of afternoon sessions also. If you are interested and have availability, please contact us ASAP and we will forward your details to the colleges.

CONTACT DETAILS

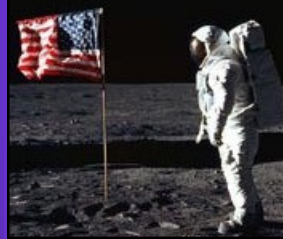
**Kerry Deaf Resource Centre
4 Gas Tce, Tralee, Co. Kerry.**

Website: www.kerrydeaf.com

E-mail: kdrc@eircom.net

Tel: 066 712 0399/ Fax: 066 712 0386

Mobile: 087 633 4687



40th Anniversary of Moon Landing

See more by visiting:

**[http://www.nasa.gov/
mission_pages
apollo/40th/index.html](http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/apollo/40th/index.html)**

Solar Power Vatican Style

The Vatican, the world's smallest country has announced that it intends to build Europe's largest solar power plant at a cost of c. €500 million.

The 100-megawatt plant, due to open in 2014, will generate enough electricity that the Vatican will be able to export large amounts of energy to Italy.



No. of New Passenger Vehicle Registrations In Ireland

MONTH	NUMBER	% CHANGE +/-
June 09	4,800	- 38.80
June 08	7,900	- 48.70
June 07	15,400	- 0.50
June 06	15,500	+ 8.14
June 05	14,400	+ 8.93
June 04	13,200	+ 18.6
June 03	11,200	- 4.32
June 02	11,700	- 18.60
June 01	14,400	- 36.70
June 00	22,800	+ 36.70
June 99	16,700	-

Of the 4,833 new private cars licensed, 2,264 (46.8pc) were petrol and 2,501 (51.7pc) were diesel.

The highest number of new private cars licensed in June 2009, classified by make, was Ford (730) followed by Volkswagen (602), Toyota (567), Nissan (328) and Opel (260).

Source: Irish Society of Motoring Industry

Car sales in Europe on the rise again

Sales of new cars across Europe rose for the first time in 14 months in June, buoyed by a number of national scrappage schemes, figures have shown.

New registrations across 28 European nations rose by 2.4 per cent last month from a year ago, the European Automotive Manufacturers' Association said. Germany, one of the first countries to pay drivers to trade in old cars, led the gains, with registrations up 41 per cent.

Yesterday, BMW's head of sales and marketing suggested the worst was over for the high-end car sector and the company was ready to increase production in the next six months.

New registrations in the UK were down 15.7 per cent in June from a year ago, a figure that had already been released by UK trade group the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders. This compared with May's 25 per cent fall.

Sales across the 28 European countries totalled 1.46 million in June, the European Automotive Manufacturers' Association said, up from 1.43 million a year earlier.

IrelandFact

Irish Banks were given an injection of €300 million to help with Business developments and loans—only €4 million of this has been given to Irish Businesses to date.

Oil @ c.\$64 July 2009—Oil @ \$147 in July 2008



International Monetary Fund

What the IMF Does

The work of the IMF is of three main types. Surveillance involves the monitoring of economic and financial developments, and the provision of policy advice, aimed especially at crisis-prevention. The IMF also lends to countries with balance of payments difficulties, to provide temporary financing and to support policies aimed at correcting the underlying problems; loans to low-income countries are also aimed especially at poverty reduction. Third, the IMF provides countries with technical assistance and training in its areas of expertise. Supporting all three of these activities is IMF work in economic research and statistics.

In recent years, as part of its efforts to strengthen the international financial system, and to enhance its effectiveness at preventing and resolving crises, the IMF has applied both its surveillance and technical assistance work to the development of standards and codes of good practice in its areas of responsibility, and to the strengthening of financial sectors..

The IMF also plays an important role in the fight against money-laundering and terrorism

For more see: <http://www.imf.org/external/>

Massive Green Energy Project would be an Ecological Disaster!



The Weston barrage, running 10 miles across the Severn estuary between Weston-super-Mare and Cardiff, is the largest of four tidal power schemes being considered by government Photograph: Matt Cardy/Getty Images

A giant tidal energy scheme which the British government is counting on to meet ambitious new green energy targets set this week should not be built because it would be so ecologically destructive, the chair of the Environment Agency has warned ministers.

It could generate 8.6 giga-watts of zero-carbon electricity from the Severn – the equivalent of eight large coal-fired power stations – and would be the single largest renewable energy project in Europe.

But the £5bn flagship scheme would permanently flood nearly 35,000 hectares (86,000 acres) of internationally protected wetlands. It would also destroy some of Britain's most important fisheries in the Severn, Wye and Usk catchment areas, said Lord Smith in an interview with the Guardian.

5m tonnes of CO2 would be emitted during construction and another 5m tonnes during transport of the materials, undermining claims that the barrage would help reduce emissions.

For the full story:

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2009/jul/17/severn-tidal-environment-agency>

Have You Inserted Your ICE number in Your Mobile Phone?

ICE Number refers to:

In Case of Emergency

On your mobile phone it is advised by All Emergency Services that you enter the number of the person(s) you wish to be contacted

In Case of Emergency

Should you be involved in an accident then the emergency personnel will search for the ICE number on your phone and notify the person whom you have assigned under the ICE number.

Irelandfacts—Energy

Fossil fuels accounted for 98.2% of all energy requirements in 1990.

In 2007 this requirement or reliance on fossil fuels was 96.4%.

The need for oil for all energy was at 46.6% in 1990 and this increased to 56.1% in 2007.

Wind derived energy accounted for 1.0% of energy requirements in 2007.

If you would like to comment on any of the articles included in this edition, please do so to:

editor@traleetimes.com

or if you wish to have an article included please let us know.

Cliffs of Moher

...new Wonder of the World?

One of Ireland's most famous tourist attractions, the Cliffs of Moher in County Clare, are on a shortlist of 28 finalists to be considered for the new seven wonders of the world.



The 700 foot sea cliffs are in competition with the likes of the Amazon rainforest, the Dead Sea, the Grand Canyon, the Matterhorn, the Maldives, Uluru (Ayers Rock) and the Great Barrier Reef in Australia and Table Mountain in South Africa.

The seven locations will be chosen by votes from the public all over the world over the next two years and the winners will be announced in 2011.

.....and there's more

The 100 Greatest Places to Stand in Europe

100 of Europe's most wondrous, inspiring, or thought-provoking locations have been put forward to be voted on by the public and collect the award as the **Greatest Place To Stand In Europe 2009**.

If you think another place should have been included in this list then leave your comment at the bottom of the page.

Don't forget, if you have been to any of these places, you can also add your photo as proof that you have StoodThere. Is it possible that someone has been to all 100?

The VOTE will close on the **1st December 2009** when the full results will be given to the World's Media.

Visit: <http://www.stoodthere.com/Default.aspx>



For 2010, we now expect GNP to contract by 2.3 per cent. While this is a downward revision on our Spring forecast for 2010 (which was -1.2 per cent), the broad conclusion to be drawn is that the size of the recession is becoming clearer.

The contraction in the economy is expected to continue through this year and into next, with a very modest rate of growth now expected to emerge in mid-2010. By the end of 2010 GNP per head is expected to be lower than its value in 2002.

For more: http://www.esri.ie/publications/latest_publications/view/index.xml?id=2800



The annual **Munster Rugby Summer Camp 2009**, sponsored by **Centra**, is at O'Dowd Park, Tralee, from the **3rd to the 7th August 2009**.

The camp runs from 9:30am to 1:30pm from Monday 3rd to Friday 7th August and is for both boys and girls aged between 6 and 13 years. **ONLY €99** For more: <http://www.traleerugby.com/>

Tralee Bay and Barrow Harbour

This is an important wetland, with internationally important numbers of wintering waterfowl. Several other species occur in numbers of national importance.

For more see:

<http://www.birdlife.org/index.html>

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