



2019.... A look Back

2019 was a year of anniversaries. In March we celebrated the 30th anniversary of the World Wide Web, allowing us to communicate, learn and do business across the world with just a press of a button.

June was the 100th anniversary of the first ever non-stop flight across the Atlantic Ocean. On June 15th, 1919 in a flight that lasted more than 17 hours, pilots John Alcock and Arthur Browne landed their plane in a bog near the town of Clifden in Connemara. A festival was held in Clifden in June this year to

celebrate the event and a statue of Alcock and Browne which stands in Heathrow airport was brought over for the celebrations.



July was the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing. On July 20th, 1969 at 4.17pm Neil Armstrong took the first step on the moon, with his famous words "that's one small step for man one giant leap for mankind".



November was the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin wall in Germany. The giant wall was built in 1961 to separate west Germany from Communist East Germany. East Germans were not allowed to cross the border which was heavily guarded by soldiers. Over the years many people were shot if they tried to escape.

Here in Ireland, the Capuchin Homeless Centre in Dublin run by Brother Kevin Crowley, was set up 40 years ago this year. When it first opened it provided meals to less than 50 people a day. However today 40 years on it gives meals to 700 people every day as well as giving out 1,500 food parcels every Wednesday to the poor and homeless of Dublin. Brother Crowley, now in his 80's, says he is saddened to see the number of homeless families with young children many living in hotel rooms, who come to the centre daily.

It was a busy year for sport. The Dublin men's football team made history by winning the All-Ireland 5 years in a row. Their manager Jim Gavin decided to call it a day after their victory. The Dublin ladies team won their 3 in a row.

Tipperary were the 2019 hurling champions while Galway were the camogie champions. In soccer, managers of the Irish soccer team, Martin O'Neill and Roy Keane were replaced by Mick McCarthy. The Irish Rugby team travelled to Japan for the world Cup where they reached the quarter finals



Katie Taylor

when they were beaten by New Zealand. Katie Taylor continued her success in 2019 winning all her fights and became world champion in 2 different weight divisions.

Ireland said farewell to some well-known people this year among them broadcaster Gay Byrne who was well known in every Irish home for more than 50 years, comedian and singer Brendan Grace and actor Niall Toibin. HPV activist Laura Brennan lost her battle with cervical cancer this year. 26-year-old Laura had spent her last year of life visiting schools and made an online appeal to encourage young women to get the HPV vaccine which helps protect against this cancer.

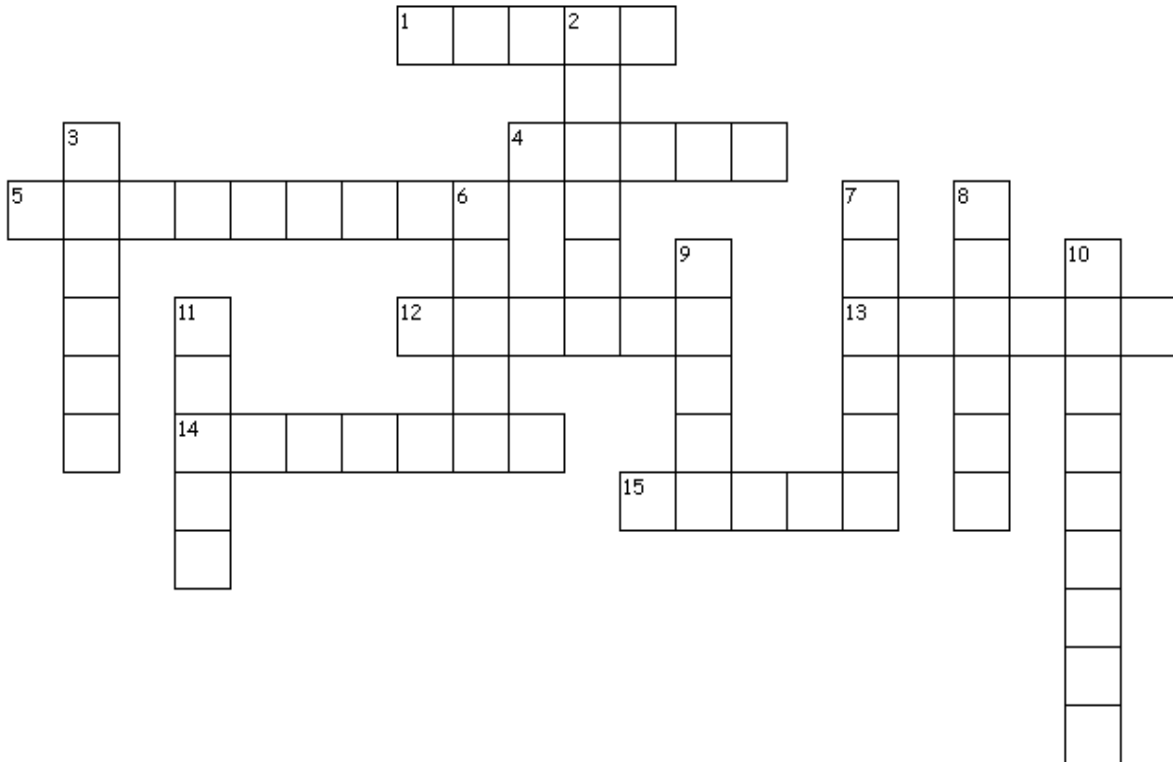


Secondary school children here in Ireland joined millions of students across the world who held protests to highlight the dangers of global warming on our planet. Climate activist Greta Thunberg the 16-year-old from Sweden has been the inspiration for all young people when she spoke at the United Nations and pleaded with the world's leaders to take action now to try and reduce carbon emissions.

President of the US Donald Trump paid a visit to his golf resort in Ireland this year. In Britain Boris Johnson took over from Theresa May as Prime Minister where the deadline for Britain leaving the EU has been extended for yet another year until January 2020.



Christmas Crossword



Across

1. Surname of Dublin football manager who just retired (5)
4. US president who visited Ireland this year (5)
5. Surname of the first man to walk on the moon (9)
12. Surname of famous Irish female boxer who won another world title this year (6)
13. Name of the city that was divided by a wall that was knocked 30 years ago this year (6)
14. Name of town near where the first non-stop flight across the Atlantic landed 100 years ago (7)
15. The rugby world cup was held in this country this year (5)

Down

2. Eurovision 2019 was held in this country (6)
3. The name given to Britain leaving the EU (6)
6. Surname of popular comedian who died this year (5)
7. Only football team ever to win 5 in a row (6)
8. Also known as CO2 (6)
9. First name of Swedish schoolgirl who talks out about climate change (6)
10. All Ireland Hurling winners 2019 (9)
11. ____ Phelan, first name of the woman to highlight the cervical screening scandal (5)



The Distance Learner

National Adult Literacy Agency
Áineacht Náisiúnta Litearthaíochta de Áineadh

December 2019

Dear Reader

We hope you enjoy reading our monthly worksheet,
" The Distance Learner".

Thank you to everyone who has sent us some nice comments and ideas.
We would like to invite you all to enter our Christmas competition.
The closing date will be January 31st 2020.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas.

Kind regards

NALA Distance Learning Team

Competition

If you would like to be in with a chance to win
a €25 book voucher,
please answer this question:

What county won 5 in a row this year?

Please send answer and your name

by Text to 087 198 4228 or
by email to distance@nala.ie

Closing date is January 31st 2020

All correct answers will be placed in the draw
Best of Luck!