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Ireland says farewell to Gay Byrne

Irish people at home and abroad were saddened to learn of the passing of one of Ireland's greatest broadcasters, Gay Byrne. For almost 60 years Gay was very much a part of every Irish home. He was the presenter and producer of the Late Late Show from 1962 to 1999 and presented a morning radio show, Monday to Friday for 25 years.

Born in Dublin in 1934, he began his career with RTE in 1957 and apart from spending a short time working in Manchester he spent the rest of his career with RTE.



Ireland in the 60's, 70's and 80's was a country run by the laws of the Catholic Church and the State who decided what topics were allowed in books, newspapers and TV programmes. Information on subjects such as sex, family planning and other family issues was not available and certainly not spoken about. However Gay gave a voice to people to speak about what was happening in their lives and broadcast programmes that gave information to the men and women of Ireland so that they were informed.

His radio programme was the first to broadcast phone calls from the public live on air, often not knowing what subject was going to be brought up. The Late Late Show held lively debates from opposing sides on topics such as divorce and abortion. It was not unusual for Gay and RTE to receive hundreds of letters of complaint from the clergy and others after such debates.

On a lighter note he started the Late Late Toy Show which is as popular today as ever. He was also the first to give air time to up and coming bands and singers where appearing on the Late Late Show meant instant fame. Bands such as U2, Boyzone and Westlife all had their first TV appearance on Gay's Late Late show.

Gay was the host of the Rose of Tralee for several years and presented the Irish version of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire".

A few years after his retirement Gay returned to host a series "The Meaning of Life" in which he interviewed famous people on their thoughts on death and life after death. He also presented a jazz show on Lyric FM.

His funeral mass was held in St Mary's Cathedral in Dublin. Thousands of people lined the streets of Dublin to bid him farewell. Gay is survived by his wife Kathleen Watkins, and his daughters Crona and Suzy and their families. May he rest in peace

Bóthar

Bóthar is an organisation that sends a gift of a live animal to families in some of the poorest parts of the world. Families in Africa, South America, and Asia have received gifts of cows, pigs, goats, bees and camels which have made a huge difference to their lives. Bóthar also provide each family with training in caring for the animal and in some villages, they have also paid for water filter systems so that they can have clean water.

The gift of a cow or a goat can mean that a family will have milk every day. Animal manure provides fertilizer for growing vegetables and even animal urine can act as a prevention to insects. The lives of whole villages have been saved by becoming able to provide and grow their own food

As Christmas approaches and our thoughts turn to buying presents, Bóthar are asking people to consider "choosing a gift so others can live" by donating money to them. For every donation they receive they will issue a gift card and a fridge magnet that can be given to a friend to show a donation has been given on their behalf.

www.bothar.ie

Opposites

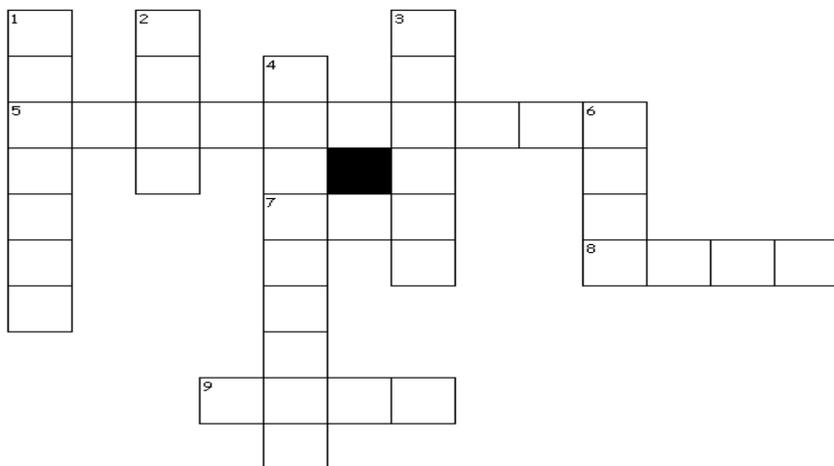
right/left	quiet/loud	high/low	beginning/end	long/short
wrong/right	serious/funny	above/below	inside/outside	deep/shallow
heavy/light	easy/difficult	large/small	safe/dangerous	top/bottom
lost/found	often/seldom	thick/thin	start/finish	expensive/cheap

Fill in the blanks using words from the list above

- In Ireland we drive on the _____ side of the road.
- An elephant is _____ but a mouse is _____.
- When you whisper you are _____ but when you shout you are _____.
- You always start at the _____ but finish at the _____.
- The sky is _____ you but the ground is _____ you.
- When it's hot the temperature is _____ when it's cold the temperature is _____.
- The ocean is very _____.
- Gold is very _____ but plastic is _____.
- A feather is _____ but a rock is _____.
- I travel in a car very _____ but I _____ travel on an aeroplane.
- I _____ my phone but I _____ it later under the table.
- I gave the _____ answer you gave the _____ one.

Crossword

All the answers to the clues are words to do with *winter*



Across

- People are asked to look out for their elderly _____ during winter (10)
- When it freezes you have this on the roads (3)
- We get a strong _____ in a storm (4)
- In winter it gets _____ at 5pm (4)

Down

- The winter months are November, December and _____ (7)
- Heavy falls of this causes flooding (4)
- Wear a pair of these to keep your hands warm (6)
- Santa comes to town during this festive season (9)
- Children love to see this falling (4)

Maths

- A cinema ticket costs €12 for an adult, and €2 less for a child and half price for OAPs. If I buy the tickets online there is a 25% discount on all tickets.
 - How much will I pay at the ticket desk for 1 adult, 2 children and 3 OAP tickets?
 - How much will I pay if I buy them online?
- I can buy 6 chocolate selection boxes for €13.20.
 - How much will I pay for 4?
 - How many can I buy for €22?

answers

Q1 a, €50 b, €37.50
Q2 €8.80 b, 10