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## 5 NEWS UPDATE

### 17 BLOOD DONATION

The Gardaí, Coast Guard, Defence Forces and Dublin Fire Brigade personnel are continuing their appeal for more people to make regular blood donations.

### 18 FIRE ENGINEERING

Fire safety lessons of 9/11 in New York have still not been learned, and people's lives are in danger even in the newest buildings around the world, according to the organiser of an international sustainable fire engineering conference, taking place in Dublin next September.

### 21 ROAD SAFETY

As a former high-profile politician, Liz O'Donnell is no stranger to being in the spotlight. This winter marks her first year as chairperson of the Road Safety Authority – a position that has gained much public attention due to the work of her predecessor, Gay Byrne.

### 24 UN60 EXHIBITION

Celebrating the contribution made by Gardaí and Defence Forces personnel to the United Nations since Ireland first became a member in 1955, the 'UN60' exhibition at the National Museum of Ireland is part of a programme of events and special projects to mark the 60th anniversary of Ireland's membership.

### 33 MIGRANT CRISIS

Since the announcement that Ireland is to take in 4,000 refugees as part of the EU's response to the Syrian refugee crisis, thoughts have turned to how these desperate migrants will be accommodated in various parts of the country.

### 38 LIFESAVING AWARDS

A large number of Gardaí joined other lifesavers from around the country to be rewarded for saving 28 lives in dramatic near-drowning rescues, at the 2015 Irish Water Safety's National Annual Awards Ceremony.

## 41 RURAL CRIME

The rising levels of crime in rural Ireland has shaken local communities to the core in recent years, leading many to take drastic precautionary action in the event of burglaries or break-ins on their property.

## 47 AMBULANCE SERVICE

The HSE National Ambulance Service College has moved to formalise its suicide awareness training programmes for paramedic students.

## 51 SUICIDE PREVENTION

Wexford MarineWatch continues to maintain its record of ZERO deaths by suicide in Wexford Harbour since the voluntary group was established in 2012.

## 53 MEDICAL ACADEMY

NUI Galway has opened the doors to the Mayo Medical Academy, in partnership with Saolta University Health Care Group and Mayo University Hospital, to integrate medical education with clinical training for doctors.

## 55 DEFENCE FORCES

Irish Defence Forces medics recently teamed up with their UK counterparts for an intensive trauma life support training programme to cover all phases of care on the battlefield. The aim now is to roll out the event on an annual basis.

## 59 SPECIAL REPORT

One word became synonymous with homelessness in Ireland during 2015: crisis. Despite ongoing promises by the Government to find a sustainable long-term solution, there's still an alarming increase in the numbers of adults and children with no place to call home.

## 65 EMERGENCY LOGISTICS

From the frontlines, Will Holden has seen first-hand the human impact of war. Having spent 20 years working in logistics for private sector companies, the Dubliner has now turned his attention to applying his skills in a humanitarian setting in some of the world's most war-torn regions.



(Cover image courtesy of Defence Forces)

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69



## 69 IRISH INDEPENDENCE

Marking its centenary year, Pearse Street Garda Station played a pivotal role for Irish independence and the birth of the Irish Nation 100 years ago.

## 75 PSNI AIR SUPPORT

The Police Service of Northern Ireland's Air Support Unit (ASU) has come a long way since it was first set up as part of the Royal Ulster Constabulary (RUC) in the spring of 1992.

## 85 FLU VACCINATION

The HSE's winter immunisation campaign is alerting healthcare workers, including emergency services personnel, that they can prevent the spread of influenza (flu) and save lives every year by getting the flu vaccine themselves.

## 87 CYSTIC FIBROSIS

Thanks to the very generous support of the general public and fundraising efforts by the emergency services, six new CF centres opened in Drogheda, Limerick, Galway, Cavan, Mayo and Waterford during 2014 and 2015.

## 89 DEFIBRILLATORS

The Health Products Regulatory Authority is now calling on all organisations with automated external defibrillators to urgently check that the recommended

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safety and maintenance updates on their device have been undertaken.

## 91 BEREAVEMENT TRAINING

Free resource packs for A&E staff members, Gardaí and other frontline workers who come into contact with newly bereaved parents and their families have been published by an Irish charity.

## 93 TELEMEDICINE

Patients can now consult their local doctor using a smartphone, thanks to the services of a new app that brings telemedicine to every GP surgery in Ireland. Developed by a Finnish healthcare start-up, the 'MeeDoc' app is offering consultations for 30 per cent less than the average cost of a GP visit.

## 95 GPS TECHNOLOGY

GoodSAM – the App which uses GPS technology to alert trained first responders including off duty doctors, nurses and paramedics, to nearby medical emergencies – has partnered with London Ambulance Service on a new innovative project.

## 97 UK NEWS

## 105 INTERNATIONAL NEWS

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