

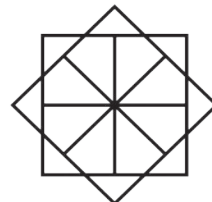
AIB PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2024

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THE **PRESS**
PHOTOGRAPHERS
ASSOCIATION
OF IRELAND

CAPTURING HISTORY



AIB PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2024

Welcome to the AIB Press Photographer of the Year Award now in its 46th year. Once again, this collection of images that accurately describe the Ireland of 2023 is presented not only as a record of our island's history but also as a testament of the incredible skill of our press photographers.

The passage of time that encompasses the change from film to digital, newsprint to online does nothing to alter the importance of this visual journalism to our society. If anything, it is as vital as ever.

In less than 12 months, we are already being challenged by Artificial Intelligence and Generative AI especially. There is no place in the world of fact-based truth-telling for this technology and we have specifically banned its use in our awards or face expulsion.

Congratulations to Alan Betson of *The Irish Times* the AIB Press Photographer of the Year 2024.

On behalf of the association, special thanks are due once again to our title-sponsor AIB and also for continuing their initiative with the 'AIB Sustainability Award' won by Dan Linehan of *Irish Examiner*.

Many other category sponsors and trade partners also greatly assist the objectives of the PPAI and we are grateful to these for their belief and support. Finally, to the members, volunteers and organisers that form the backbone of the PPAI, we are grateful as always to you for making this competition, catalogue and exhibition possible – well done!

The coming year will usher in a new era and opportunity for us as our association becomes 'Press Photographers Ireland CLG' with the aim of securing new opportunities for Ireland's press photographers and continuing the proud traditions of the PPAI.

David Branigan

President, The Press Photographers Association of Ireland

MESSAGE FROM AIB

AIB has enjoyed a warm relationship with Ireland's press photographers through the years as we share your belief that photography has a key role to play in telling the visual stories of our time.

Yours may be a not-for-profit, volunteer-led organisation, but it is very clear that it is one with very big ambitions judging by the extraordinary quality of the work being produced by your members across the entire island of Ireland.

So we are honoured to return as sponsors of the 46th annual Press Photographer of the Year Award which showcases the important work of Ireland's press photographers and the many highs and lows of the year gone by.

Sustainability is a key strategic priority for AIB as we seek to lower our own carbon footprint and to support our customers to do the same. So we are particularly pleased that you are again this year making a special award for the image that best reflects the theme of sustainability.

We look forward to seeing all the images Ireland's press photographers are showcasing here this evening and to displaying them in our branches so we can bring your work to the attention of our customers in the communities we serve all over Ireland.

Colin Hunt

CEO AIB



Pictured at the judging photocall for the 46th annual 'AIB Press Photographer of the Year Award' are Dublin native and Head of Pictures at the *Financial Times*, Helen Healy, Chair of the judging panel and former *Irish Times* picture editor, Frank Miller, Chief Sustainability and Corporate Affairs Officer at AIB Mary Whitelaw and Shaun Botterill of Getty Images.

Photo: Arthur Carron Photography

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Alan Betson
THE IRISH TIMES



1st **↑1 Alan Betson**
THE IRISH TIMES
BURNING CITY

A burning bus on Dublin's O'Connell Bridge during riots in Dublin City Centre in the aftermath of a knife attack on school children on Parnell Square.

“ THE JUDGES SAID... ”
This dramatic image of a burning bus during the absolute peak of the Dublin riots captures the mayhem of one of the main news events of the year.

3rd **→3 Clodagh Kilcoyne**
REUTERS
PULLED FROM THE RUBBLE

Kateryna Zelenska is pulled from the rubble of a Dnipro apartment block destroyed by a Russian air strike. Trapped for 18 hours, she was unable to signal for help, as her sister revealed she is deaf. Her husband and 1-year-old child perished in the attack.

“ THE JUDGES SAID... ”
A stunning photograph of the rescue of a woman from a bombed building in Ukraine, as firefighters demonstrate great care and tenderness during their rescue of the victim.

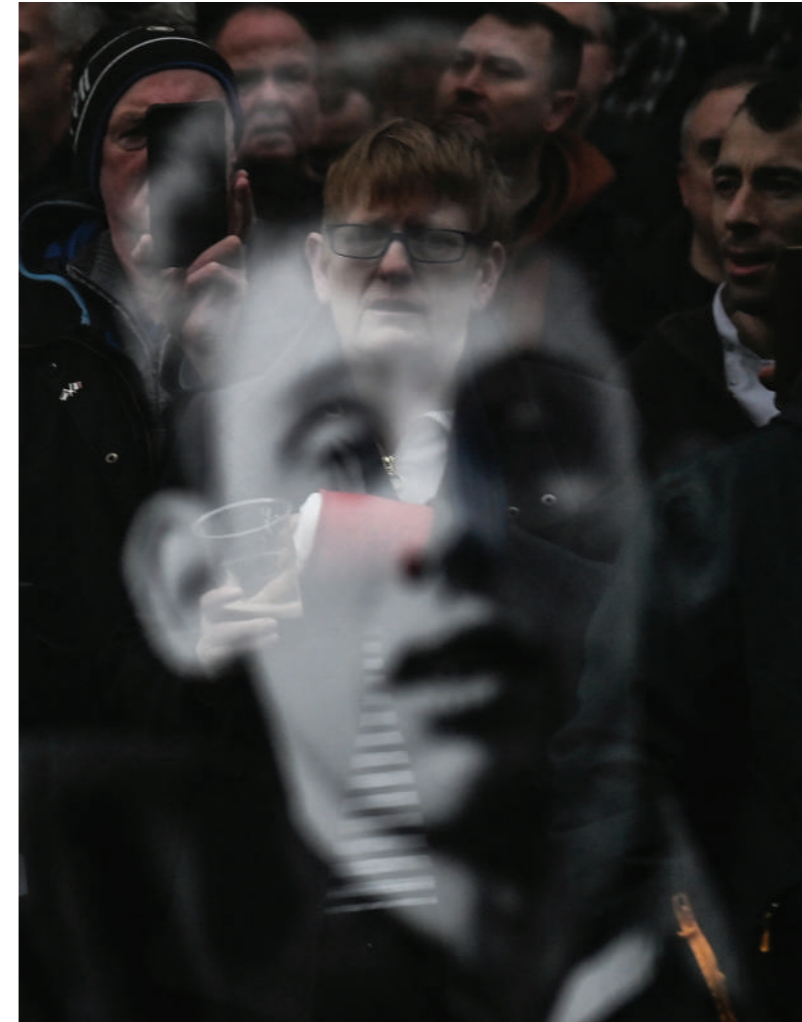


2nd **↑2 Alan Betson**
THE IRISH TIMES
RELIEVED

On a back lane, a child is carried to safety from her school, Scoil Mhuire, as Gardaí and emergency services attend Parnell Square in Dublin in the aftermath of a knife attack on school children and their carer.

“ THE JUDGES SAID... ”
The sheer relief shown by this man clutching a child in the aftermath of the horrific knife attack at Parnell Square is palpable. The photograph illustrates every parent's worst nightmare.

←4 David Fitzgerald
SPORTSFILE
REFLECTING ON SHANE
Funeral goers are seen reflected looking on at a photo on the hearse of Shane MacGowan in Dublin City Centre.





↑5 Clodagh Kilcoyne

REUTERS
EASTER MONDAY
 Dissident republicans throw petrol bombs at an armoured police car after holding an anti-Good Friday Agreement rally on the 25th anniversary of the peace deal, in Derry, Northern Ireland.

➔7 Clodagh Kilcoyne

REUTERS
BLACK TULIP
 Humanitarian mission "Black Tulip" in Ukraine exhumes and returns bodies of fallen soldiers to their families on the frontline in the Donetsk region during Russia's attack on Ukraine.



↑6 Alan Betson

THE IRISH TIMES
TUBRIDY AT THE DÁIL
 RTÉ presenter Ryan Tubridy arriving to the Dáil before giving evidence to the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) on commercial arrangements entered into by RTÉ and its presenters, which have impacted on and relate to the expenditure of public monies.



←8 John Kelly

THE CLARE CHAMPION
MAN IN THE MIDDLE
 Harley O'Callaghan, of Kiltrush, Co. Clare, looks on as he stands between two arguing factions during an information meeting, in the Town Park at Shannon, where concerns were expressed about the new Shannon Refugee Hub proposed for an industrial unit at Shannon Free Zone.



←9 Sam Boal

ROLLINGNEWS.IE
TRANS VIGIL
 Trans and Intersex Pride Dublin held a vigil at the Spire in memory of 16-year-old trans girl Brianna Ghey, who was murdered in Cheshire, United Kingdom.

↓10 Nick Bradshaw

FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES

BIDEN FANS DUNDALK

US President Joe Biden visited the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland to mark the 25th anniversary of the Belfast Agreement, as well as holding a round of political meetings and calling to his ancestral homelands in Co. Louth and Co. Mayo.



←11 Tom Honan

FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES

THE FREE MONK

Gerry 'The Monk' Hutch walks free from court after being found not guilty of the murder of David Byrne.

↓13 Denis Minihane

IRISH EXAMINER

BUS STOP

A Bus Éireann bus, which had no passengers on board, after colliding with the crash rail at a railway bridge at Dublin Hill, Cork.



↑12 Niall Carson

PA MEDIA

CROWNING GLORY

King Charles III and Queen Camilla are carried in the Gold State Coach, pulled by eight Windsor Greys, in the Coronation Procession as they return along The Mall to Buckingham Palace, London, following their coronation ceremony.



←14 Sam Boal

ROLLINGNEWS.IE

IN SYMPATHY

Grieving school friends watch as the coffin of 16-year-old Dlava Mohamed is lowered in Newcastle Muslim Cemetery. Dlava and 17-year-old Kiea McCann died in a car crash while travelling to a debs ball in Co. Monaghan.

↑15 Jonathan Porter

PRESS EYE

LOCALS ONLY

Racist graffiti on newly opened shop in the Donegal Road area of south Belfast.



↑16 **Tom Honan**
 FREELANCE/IRISH DAILY MAIL
THE DUBLIN RIOTS
 A view of riots in Dublin's O'Connell Street.

➔19 **Gerry Mooney**
 MEDIAHUIS IRELAND/IRISH INDEPENDENT/SUNDAY INDEPENDENT
STANDING UP AGAINST HIS PRINCIPAL
 Embattled school teacher Enoch Burke pictured outside the entrance to Wilson's Hospital School following his suspension from duty. He continued his protest outside the school every day for months until the end of term. He later ended up in jail for contempt of court.



↑17 **Nick Bradshaw**
 FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES
TRAVELLER SUICIDE
 Michelle Ward and Patrick McDonagh, parents of 12-year-old suicide victim Pat McDonagh, with a recent photograph of their son as the National Traveller Mental Health Network calls on the Taoiseach to take immediate political action to end the mental health crisis that is devastating Irish Travellers.



←18 **Damien Eagers**
 FREELANCE
FAREWELL TO THE IRISH RAMBLER
 Victoria Mary Clarke holds the coffin of her late husband, Shane MacGowan, at his funeral in Nenagh, Co. Tipperary.

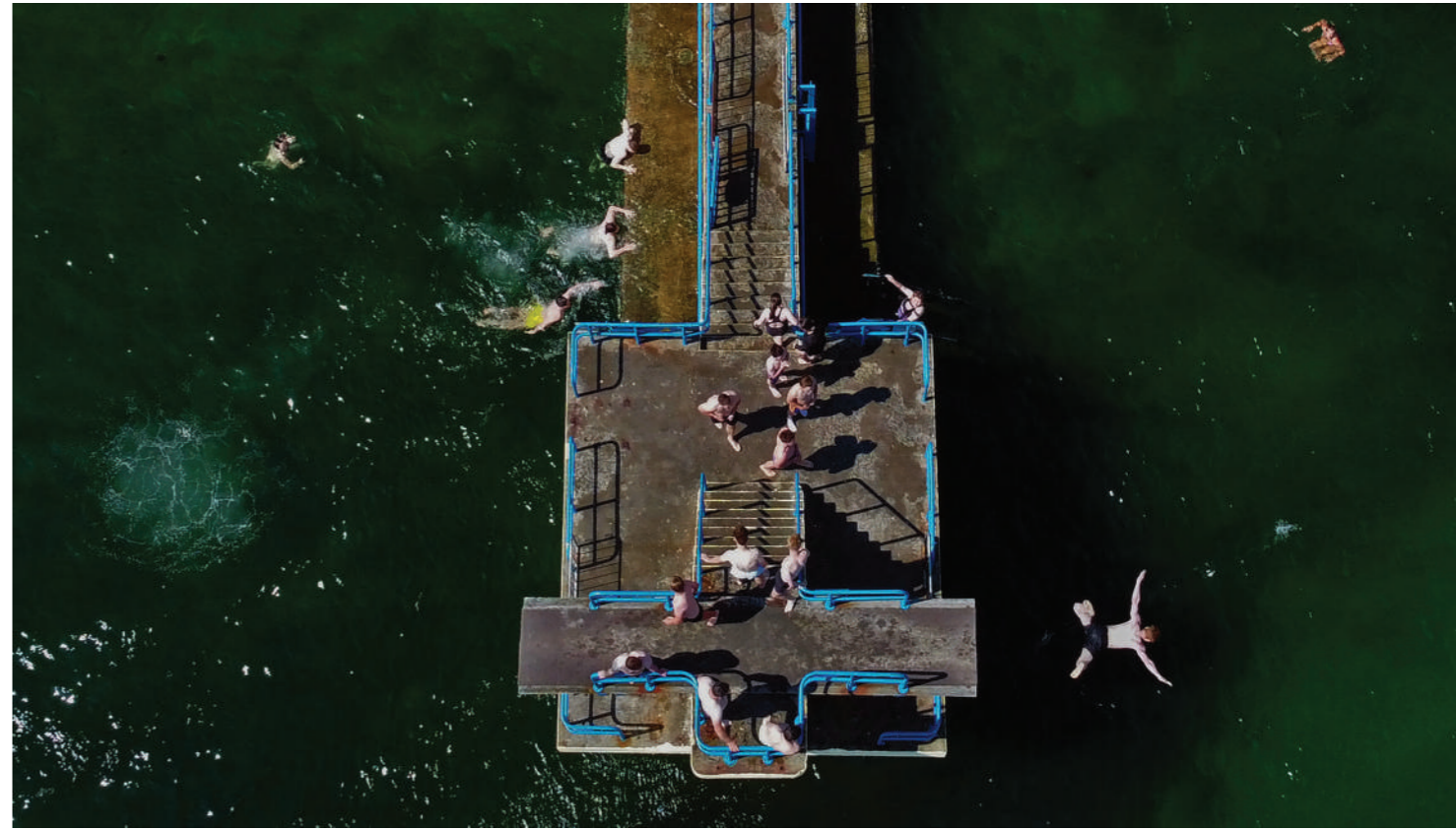


←20 **Gerry Mooney**
 MEDIAHUIS IRELAND/IRISH INDEPENDENT/SUNDAY INDEPENDENT
NOTHING COMPARES TO HER
 The remains of Sinéad O'Connor are surrounded by her adoring fans giving a final farewell as they make their way along Strand Road in Bray.



1st ←21 **Dara Mac Dónail**
 THE IRISH TIMES
COMMUNITY SUPPORT
 Sarah Cullen, is at ease and supported by local shopkeeper, Noel Fleming, along with Mary Byrne and dog Victor, after experiencing an attempted robbery at her home the previous week.

“ THE JUDGES SAID...
A heart-warming moment as the local community rallies around residents at a sheltered housing unit in Dublin where elderly tenants have suffered from serious anti-social behaviour.



3rd ↑23 **Niall Carson**

PA MEDIA
SALTHILL SOMERSAULT
 People cool off by jumping into the sea at Salthill, Galway, during the warm weather.

“ THE JUDGES SAID...
An impressively abstract overview of swimmers and divers at Salthill, Galway.



←24 **Alan Betson**
 THE IRISH TIMES
SKATER GIRL
 Laura Majewski from Germany enjoys roller skating, while Max Wirth and Simone Helfrich from America enjoy some knitting in the sunshine at the Dún Laoghaire Baths during a spell of sunshine and blue skies.

2nd →22 **Philip Doyle**
 IRISH FARMERS JOURNAL
GIVE IT WELLY
 Youth farming organisation Macra succeed in an attempt to break a world record attempt for the most people simultaneously throwing wellington boots which previously stood at 792.

“ THE JUDGES SAID...
A joyful and well-timed moment during the welly-throwing world record attempt at the National Ploughing Championships.



DAILY LIFE AND PEOPLE

↓25 John Kelly

THE CLARE CHAMPION

BRIDGING THE HOMELESS GAP

Kit Smalley and his dog "Yeoh" living under the bridge in Doonbeg village in

Clare. After becoming homeless in the summer, he had no option but to live in the stone room which was last inhabited in the immediate post-famine period. As winter approached, he finally got a new home in nearby Kilrush town.



↓26 Julien Behal

FREELANCE

RCSI RESULTS DAY

Rachel Ni Fhearaigh and Sarah O'Keeffe overcome with emotion during the RCSI Class of 2023 results ceremony.



DAILY LIFE AND PEOPLE

↓28 Eamon Ward

EAMON WARD PHOTOGRAPHY

TOP DOG

Bean an tí Magella Wilson keeping the freshly baked scones out of the reach of newly introduced Irish Wolfhounds who took up permanent residence on the grounds of Bunratty Castle and Folk Park in July.



→27 Alan Betson

THE IRISH TIMES

CLIMBING WITH CHARLIE

Charlie Bird his wife Claire and dog Tiger (far right) with supporters climbing to the Papal Cross in aid of multiple charities to mark the first anniversary of Climb with Charlie.



←29 Alan Betson

THE IRISH TIMES

MOON SWIM

Swimmers took to the chilly seven degree water in a full moon Nollaig na mBan swim at Clontarf Baths, as part of a fundraiser for Women's Aid.



DAILY LIFE AND PEOPLE



↑30 Mark Condren

MEDIAHUIS IRELAND/
IRISH INDEPENDENT/
SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

OSCAR FEVER

Grainne O'Hagan, who was an extra in *The Banshees of Inisherin*, watches the 95th Academy Awards at her home in Achill Island with Olwyn Cattigan.



→33 Eamon Ward

EAMON WARD
PHOTOGRAPHY

RURAL BLOCKADE

A silage bale blocks the entrance to Magowna House, Inch, Co. Clare, as local people stage a peaceful protest against the hotel's use to house international protection applicants.

→34 Kerry Kennelly

KERRY'S EYE

DOLLY DAY

Mary Ellen Browne and Laura Lyne having fun at Dolly Day in Listowel, where participants created a record for the most people dressed as Dolly Parton.



←31 Justin Farrelly

FREELANCE

FLIGHT OF THE FAIRIES

Samuuh Freitas, Matheus Ramires, Thiago Noleto and Diego Vaz, all from Brazil, celebrating in Dublin City Centre on St. Patrick's night 2023.



↑32 Dara Mac Dónail

THE IRISH TIMES

MAKING THEIR VOICES HEARD

Members of the disabled community and supporters protest to highlight the important role of Personal Assistance Services to enable disabled people to live independently.



↑35 Morgan Treacy

INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY

SEALED WITH A KISS

Trainer Johnny Murtagh receives a kiss from owner Tommy Dowd after winning The Paddy Power International Stakes (Group 3) with Mashoor at the Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby Festival in The Curragh.

DAILY LIFE AND PEOPLE

↓36 Clodagh Kilcoyne

REUTERS

FINAL JOURNEY HOME

Pallbearers carry the coffin containing thirteen skulls that were stolen 133 years ago by British anthropologist Alfred Haddon, as they make

their final journey home after a decades-long campaign by islanders to have the remains returned and reinterred to the site they were taken from, as a traditional funeral is held for them, in St. Coleman's graveyard, on Inishbofin Island.



DAILY LIFE AND PEOPLE

↓37 Nick Bradshaw

FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES

RED ARROWS FLYPAST

The Red Arrows perform a flypast at Casement Aerodrome, Baldonnell, ahead of the Bray Air Show.



➔38 David Fitzgerald

SPORTSFILE

HORSE PLAY

A young boy with his horse at the annual horse fair in Killorglin, Co. Kerry.



↑39 Mark Condren

MEDIAHUIS IRELAND/IRISH INDEPENDENT/SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

PLOUGHMAN'S BREAKFAST

Noel Hand prepares his breakfast with his plough horses, Tom and Bill, on the final day of the National Ploughing Championships in Co. Laois.



↑40 Gary Ashe

FREELANCE

RYAN'S GRILLING

Daniel Grimes watches presenter Ryan Tubridy during the Public Accounts Committee Oireachtas hearing, in a pub in Dublin.



1st ↑41 **Bryan Keane**
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY
AMPHIBIOUS

Ireland's Maria Godden in action during the Women's 50m backstroke heats at the European Under-23 Swimming Championships, National Aquatic Centre, Dublin.

“ **THE JUDGES SAID...**

A highly artistic view of swimmer Maria Godden doing the backstroke during the European Under-23 Championships at the National Aquatic Centre, Dublin.

2nd →42 **James Crombie**
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY

FOCUS
Kilkenny's Martin Keoghan battles for the ball with Dan Morrissey of Limerick during the GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior Championship Final.

“ **THE JUDGES SAID...**

In this unusual and perfectly timed view of a hurling encounter, the viewer is drawn straight to the eyes of the player making the desperate interception.



3rd ↑43 **Ben Brady**
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY
PULLING ON PURPLE

Terenure's Matthew Somerville gets a tight grip on Clongowes' Tom Murtagh's jersey as he tries to get away from the ruck during the Bank of Ireland Leinster Schools Senior Cup First Round Replay at Energia Park in Donnybrook, Dublin.

“ **THE JUDGES SAID...**

Colour and expressions combine to make this striking rugby action picture during a Leinster Schools Senior Cup game between Terenure and Clongowes.

←44 **Tom Maher**
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY
BREAKING THROUGH

Tipperary's Grace O'Brien is challenged by Clodagh Carroll of Waterford during the 2023 Glen Dimplex All-Ireland Senior Camogie Championship Semi-Final in UPMC Nowlan Park, Kilkenny.



←45 **Ramsey Cardy**
SPORTSFILE

SNAP!
Gearóid Hegarty of Limerick has his hurley broken by Pádraic Mannion of Galway during the GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior Championship semi-final match between Limerick and Galway at Croke Park in Dublin.



↑46 Sam Barnes
SPORTSFILE

FALLING FEMKE
Alexis Holmes of USA, left, on her way to winning the mixed 4x400m relay as Femke Bol of Netherlands falls during the World Athletics Championships at the National Athletics Centre in Budapest, Hungary.

→47 Morgan Treacy
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY

WHO NEEDS A BALL?
England's Maro Itoje competes in a maul with fellow team mates against their Irish opponents in the 2023 Guinness Six Nations Championship at the Aviva Stadium.



←48 David Branigan
OCEANSPORT

PRINCESS SOFIA, PALMA
49er skiff racing at the 51st Trofeo Princesa Sofia for Olympic Sailing classes in the Bay of Palma, Mallorca.



↑50 Ryan Byrne
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY

HURLING IN THE RAIN
Ballygunner's Mikey Mahony claims possession during a downpour during the AIB GAA Munster Senior Club Hurling Championship Quarter-Final against Sarsfields.

←51 Seb Daly
SPORTSFILE

HORSES OVER COURSES
Runners and riders clear the first during the Porterstown Handicap Steeplechase on day two of the Fairyhouse Winter Festival at Fairyhouse Racecourse in Ratoath, Meath.



↑49 Ryan Byrne
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY

HAIR FLICK
Ireland's Louise Quinn attempts a header with USA's Tierna Davidson during the Women's International friendly at CITYPARK in St. Louis, USA.



1st ↑52 **Dan Sheridan**
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY
GOLDEN DROPS

South Africa's Captain Siya Kolisi celebrates with the William Webb Ellis trophy after winning the 2023 Rugby World Cup.

“ THE JUDGES SAID... ”

South Africa captain Siya Kolisi raises the William Ebb Ellis trophy aloft for a kiss after the team won the Rugby World Cup. Lighting, timing and composition combine for this outstanding image.

2nd →53 **Brendan Moran**
SPORTSFILE
CUP CELEBRATION

Shane Lowry of Europe celebrates alongside team-mate Rory McIlroy as he lifts the Ryder Cup upon victory on the final day of the 2023 Ryder Cup at Marco Simone Golf and Country Club in Rome, Italy.

“ THE JUDGES SAID... ”

A full-throated Shane Lowry, alongside Rory McIlroy and other European team-mates celebrate their comprehensive victory over USA in the Ryder Cup.



←55 **Brendan Moran**
SPORTSFILE

YOU'RE STILL THE BEST, DAD

Ireland captain Jonathan Sexton is hugged by his son, Luca, after the 2023 Rugby World Cup Pool B match between South Africa and Ireland at the Stade de France in Paris, France.

3rd ↓54 **Tom Maher**
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY

TAKING A BREATHER

Sunday's Well Rebels players take a breather ahead of the IRFU Mixed Ability Rugby Tournament, which took place at Buccaneers RFC, Co. Westmeath.

“ THE JUDGES SAID... ”

A charming, offbeat photograph as Sunday Well Rebels take a rest at the IRFU Mixed Ability Rugby Tournament in Westmeath.



SPORTS FEATURE

↓58 Seb Daly
SPORTSFILE

DELIGHT AND DEJECTION

Grainne Walsh of Spartacus Boxing Club, Offaly, celebrates her victory over Amy Broadhurst of St. Bronagh's ABC, Louth, at the IABA National Elite Boxing Championships Finals in Dublin.



→56 Seb Daly
SPORTSFILE

GETTING THEIR HEADS TOGETHER

Greece's Tasos Bakasetas and Republic of Ireland's James McClean share their thoughts during the UEFA EURO 2024 Championship qualifying group B match between Greece and Republic of Ireland at the OPAP Arena in Athens, Greece.



↑59 Seb Daly
SPORTSFILE

MEN AT THE MONITOR

Stewards, from left, Ger Finnigan, Peter Mulryan, Tom Concannon, Tom Flaherty and Jimmy Acton, watch a monitor, showing the Allianz Football League Division 1 match between Donegal and Galway.



→60 James Crombie
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY

URC CHAMPIONS

Munster's Alex Kendellen, Josh Wycherley and Keith Earls celebrate after their side won the BKT United Rugby Championship Final against the Stormers.



SPORTS FEATURE

↓57 Sam Boal
ROLLINGNEWS.IE

PAUW'S OFF

Team manager Vera Pauw at the homecoming event for the Irish Women's Football Team. Her contract was not renewed.



↑61 James Crombie
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY

ALONE HE STANDS

Kilkenny fan Fionn McGivern (aged 2) watches as his side take on Clare during the GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior Championship Semi-Final.



↑62 Tom Maher
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY
SO CLOSE
Ireland fans watch the Republic of Ireland WNT's 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup Group game against Australia during a watch party held in Ringsend, Dublin.

➔63 Sam Barnes
SPORTSFILE
RECORD REACTION
Ayomide Folorunso of Italy reacts after running a new national record in the women's 400m hurdles heats during day four of the World Athletics Championships at the National Athletics Centre in Budapest, Hungary.



↑64 Ramsey Cardy
SPORTSFILE
SUNRISE PUTT
Padraig Harrington of Ireland putts for birdie on the 10th green during the Horizon Irish Open Golf Championship at The K Club in Straffan, Kildare.

←65 Ryan Byrne
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY
APPREHENSION
Ireland manager Stephen Kenny ahead of the UEFA Euro 2024 Qualifying against Greece.



←66 Tom Maher
INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY
THE LONG WALK HOME
Marathon runner Colm Murray is helped home by his daughter, Ciara, and his wife, Orla, after he completed the 2023 Irish Life Dublin Marathon in October.



1st **67 Mark Condren**
 MEDIAHUIS IRELAND/IRISH
 INDEPENDENT/SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

TAKING A BREAK
 97-year-old sculptor Imogen Stuart falls asleep while getting her portrait taken at her studio in Dublin.

“ THE JUDGES SAID... ”
 A highly atmospheric and emotionally engaging image of 97-year-old sculptor Imogen Stuart, who nodded off while getting her portrait taken at her studio in Dublin.

3rd **69 John Kelly**
 THE CLARE CHAMPION
A STAR IS BORN...

One of the stars of this year's The Late Late Toy Show 7-year-old, Sheamie Garrihy, gets back to his routine work, helping his dad Jamie with blocklaying at home in Knockroe, Kilfenora, Co. Clare.

“ THE JUDGES SAID... ”
 The subject's personality shines through in this absolutely charming portrait of Sheamie Garrihy, one of the stars of The Late Late Toy Show, who was helping his father with block laying at home in Kilfenora, Co. Clare.



2nd

68 Bryan O'Brien

THE IRISH TIMES

THE DRUID

Eimear Burke, druid and chief of the Order of Bards, Ovates and Druids, pictured at dawn at her home in Co. Kilkenny.

“ THE JUDGES SAID... ”

A painterly portrait of druid Eimear Burke taken at dawn near her home in Kilkenny. The image is reminiscent of the 19th Century photography of Julia Margaret Cameron.



70 Ernie Leslie

THE SUNDAY WORLD

LENA

Lena Maughan shows her upset on learning the person convicted of her rape at 15 years old had appealed his conviction.

PORTRAIT



↑71 Fran Veale

FREELANCE
**SIOBHAN
 MACGOWAN**
 Siobhan MacGowan, sister of the late Shane MacGowan, at their great grandmother's cottage in Tipperary.

→72 Dara Mac Dónaill

THE IRISH TIMES
**AUTHOR CLAIRE
 KEEGAN**
 Author, Claire Keegan, at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre, in Annaghmakerrig, Co. Monaghan.



PORTRAIT

←73 Tom Honan

FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES
STYLE IN THE CITY
 Music fan, Paul Stafford, pictured before the Dexys' concert at 3Olympia Theatre, Dublin.

↓75 Nick Bradshaw

FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES
STONEMAN
 David Keohan lifting 'An Cloch Corchra' the purple stone at Stage Cove, Copper Coast, Waterford. David is from Waterford City and on a mission to re-popularise the ancient tradition of stone lifting. He is also known as "Indiana Stones" and holds a world record in kettlebell lifting.



←74 Nick Bradshaw

FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES
**MARY DUFFY,
 ARTIST, SAILOR
 AND THALIDOMIDE
 SURVIVOR**
 Mary Duffy, artist, sailor and thalidomide survivor – "my barstool is like an extension of my body, I take it everywhere".



1st ↑76 **Nick Bradshaw**
 FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES
PREENING CORMORANT

A Cormorant whilst preening at Dublin's Grand Canal Basin.

“ THE JUDGES SAID... ”
A highly unusual take on a cormorant which found its feathers ruffled while preening itself at Dublin's Grand Canal Basin.

3rd →78 **James Crombie**
 INPHO PHOTOGRAPHY
TREE OF LIFE

A murmuration at Dysart on Lough Ennell, Co. Westmeath.

“ THE JUDGES SAID... ”
A remarkable combination of a tree in winter augmented by a murmuration in the place of foliage makes this image a worthy winner.



2nd ←77 **Michael Mac Sweeney**
 PROVISION

DOG DAY AFTERNOON

Pavel Ciechomovicz rescues his Labrador Nanij from flooding on Main St., Midleton, Co. Cork.

“ THE JUDGES SAID... ”
A striking image from Midleton, Co. Cork. as Pavel Ciechomovicz rescued his dog when the town was struck by the worst flooding in living memory. This image stood out from many as Ireland and much of Europe was affected by unprecedented flooding during the warmest year on record.



NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

↓79 Jonathan Porter

PRESS EYE

TOXIC BLOOM

A toxic bloom of green algae gathers at the Toome Lock on Lough Neagh, Co. Antrim. Large parts of the lough are being choked by similar blooms due to pollution from the surrounding area. Lough Neagh, which is one of Europe's largest bodies of fresh water, provides 40% of Northern Ireland's drinking water.



NATURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

←80 Nick Bradshaw

FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES

COMMON BLUE BUTTERFLY

A common blue butterfly ready for lift off at the Shelly Banks Beach, a part of the Irishtown and Ringsend nature reserve, along the Poolbeg Peninsula, Dublin City.



←82

Lorraine Teevan

FREELANCE

GONE TO POT

A tree grows out of an unusual spot on the chimney of a shop in Cavan Town.



↑81 Niall Carson

PA MEDIA

NOT SHIP SHAPE

After 30 years in Ringsend and 30 years in Galway, historic MV Naomh Éanna capsized in Grand Canal Dock waiting to be scrapped.



→83 Clodagh Kilcoyne

REUTERS

CYCLING THROUGH THE SNOW

People cycle through Massey Woods after heavy snow in Dublin.



↑84 Dan Linehan

IRISH EXAMINER

SUBMERGED

Potatoes after weeks of heavy rain at Ballymaloe, Cork. Growers warned of a potato shortage and said the harvest would be the "worst in living memory".





1st ↑85 **Alan Betson**
THE IRISH TIMES
IMPROVING FOREIGN AFFAIRS
Minister for Justice, Simon Harris, Minister for Environment, Climate, Communications and Transport, Eamon Ryan, Tánaiste, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Defence, Micheál Martin, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, Rt Hon Chris Heaton-Harris, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, Steve Baker MP and Minister of State for Media, Data, and Digital Infrastructure, Julia Lopez MP speaking to media after a meeting of the British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference in Farmleigh House.

“**THE JUDGES SAID...**
What could have been another mundane photograph of politicians at a meeting of the British-Irish Intergovernmental Conference at Farmleigh is elevated into an excellent political photograph due to the range of expressions captured by an observant photographer.

➔88 **Alan Betson**
THE IRISH TIMES
ELECTRIC BUS
Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan with kids from Dean Kelly National School in Athlone getting a trip on one of the first new electric buses at the launch of Ireland's first electric town bus service in Athlone.



2nd ↓86 **Mark Condren**
MEDIAHUIS IRELAND/IRISH INDEPENDENT/SUNDAY INDEPENDENT
MAYO FOR JOE!
US President Joe Biden who made his final address outside St. Muredach's

Cathedral in Ballina, Co. Mayo.
“**THE JUDGES SAID...**
A highlight of US President Biden's visit is perfectly captured in this scene outside the cathedral in Ballina. The framing, timing and lighting of this scene are all perfect.



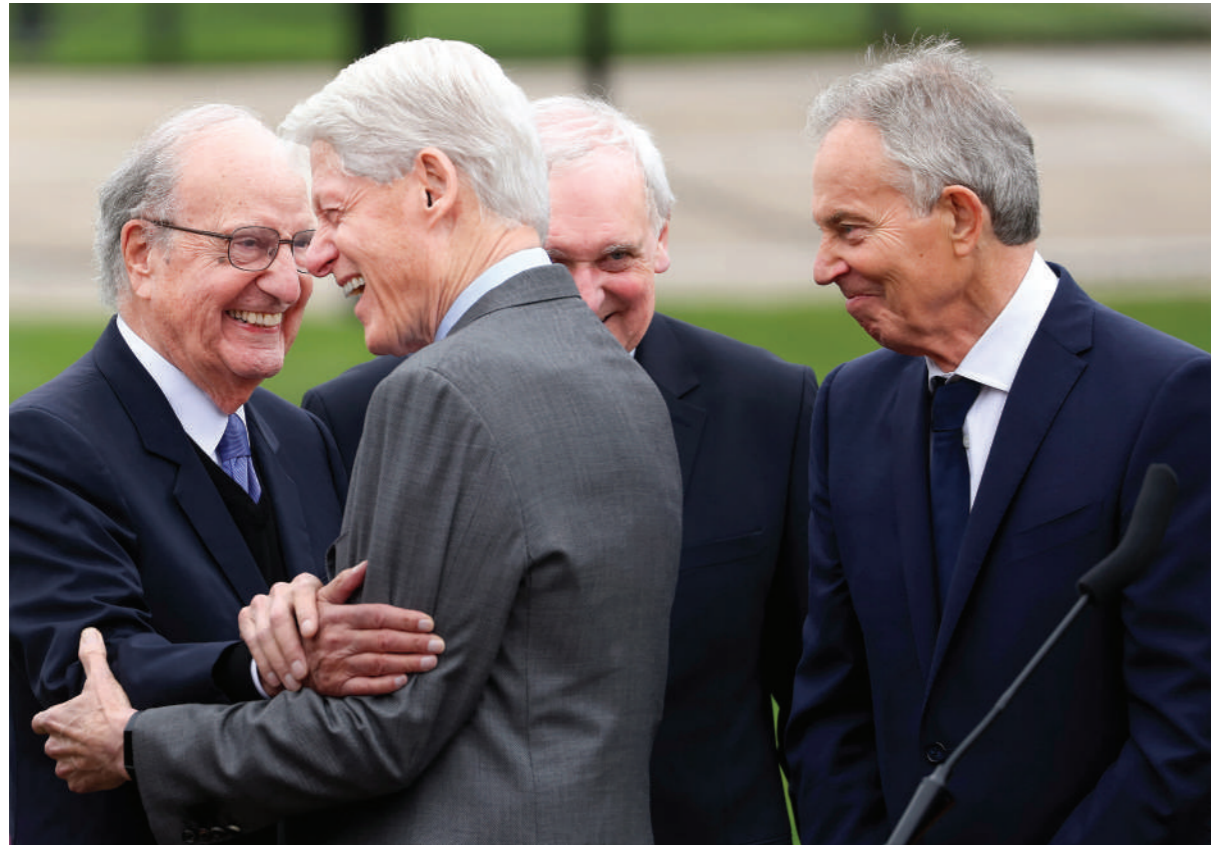
3rd ←87 **Frank McGrath**
MEDIAHUIS IRELAND/IRISH INDEPENDENT/SUNDAY INDEPENDENT
MARY LOU MCDONALD
Sinn Féin leader Mary Lou McDonald kisses the hand of Dr. Jilan Abdalmajid, Palestinian Ambassador to Ireland, after her address to the Sinn Féin Ard Fheis in Athlone.

“**THE JUDGES SAID...**
An emotional moment at the Sinn Féin Ard Fheis between party president Mary Lou McDonald and the Palestinian ambassador to Ireland Dr. Jilan Abdalmajid.

↓89 Jonathan Porter
PRESS EYE

ARCHITECTS OF PEACE

Bertie Ahern and Tony Blair look on as former US President Bill Clinton embraces Senator George Mitchell after unveiling a bust of him during the 'Agreement 25 Conference' at Queen's University, Belfast, marking the 25th Anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement.



→91 Niall Carson
PA MEDIA

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak holds a huddle with political journalists on board a government plane as he heads to Washington DC in the US.



↑90 Nick Bradshaw
FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES

MICHEÁL MARTIN, TÁNAISTE AND FIANNA FáIL PARTY LEADER

Tánaiste and party leader Micheál Martin after addressing Fianna Fáil's Ard Fheis 2023 in Dublin.



←92 Nick Bradshaw
FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES

MICHELLE O'NEILL, PRO-TRANS GATHERING, DUBLIN

Michelle O'Neill, Vice President of Sinn Féin and MLA for the Mid Ulster Constituency since 2007.



1st ↑93 **Alan Betson**
THE IRISH TIMES
TEARS OF JOY – NIALL HORAN FANS

Niall Horan fans go wild as he performs at Electric Picnic, Stradbally, Co. Laois.

“ **THE JUDGES SAID...**

Euphoric fans of Niall Horan react as the singer takes to the stage at Electric Picnic. A perfectly captured moment is enhanced by the lighting colour contrast between the fans and the sky behind.

3rd →95 **Andres Poveda**
ANDRES POVEDA PHOTOGRAPHY
JOHNNY ROTTEN MOOD

John Lydon of Public Image Ltd (PiL) showcases his discontent during the press conference preceding The Late Late Show Eurosong where the winner would go on to represent Ireland in the Eurovision Song Contest.

“ **THE JUDGES SAID...**

Fascinating body language and expressions as John Lydon of Public Image Ltd shows his impatience for proceedings to get underway at The Late Late Show Eurosong contest.



2nd ↓94 **Nick Bradshaw**
FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES
HOZIER IN DUBLIN

Hozier during his performance in the 3Arena, Dublin.

“ **THE JUDGES SAID...**

Hozier is bathed in stunning stage lighting while playing at the 3Arena, Dublin, in this perfectly composed picture.



←96 **Alan Betson**
THE IRISH TIMES

WHO'S LOOKING AT WHO?

Shelley Bridges from California viewing the Tony O'Connor equine artist stand on the first day of the RDS Dublin Horse Show 2023.



ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

➔97 Gary Ashe

FREELANCE

THE BOSS

Bruce Springsteen performs at the RDS, Dublin.



↓98 Marc O'Sullivan

MARC O'SULLIVAN PHOTOGRAPHY

SIBLING SOUNDS

Sister and brother, Faustina on Viola and Faith on double bass from the Pesto Players, pictured practicing for the Irish Association of Youth Orchestras Annual Festival of Youth Orchestras at the National Concert Hall.



ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

↓99 Andres Poveda

ANDRES POVEDA PHOTOGRAPHY

SINÉAD

Sinéad O'Connor displays her rebellious spirit in her final public appearance at the RTÉ Choice Music Prize, where she received the award for Best Irish Classic Album for 'I Do Not Want What I Haven't Got'.



ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

↓100 **Andres Poveda**

ANDRES POVEDA PHOTOGRAPHY

NEW ECHOES

Gemma New embodying a symphony of emotions, conducts the National Symphony Orchestra during their captivating performance of Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4 at the National Concert Hall in Dublin.



↑101 **Nick Bradshaw**

FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES

OSCAR WINNER JAMES MARTIN

Oscar winning Actor James Martin (Academy Award for best short feature, An Irish Goodbye) during a visit to the Down Syndrome Centre in Sandyford, Dublin pictured with 2-year-old Orla Murray from Kilmacanogue, Wicklow, whilst meeting some of the service users including children, young adults and their families.

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

←102 **Hany Marzouk**

FREELANCE

THE FLYING DRAGONS

A flying dragon roaming the streets of Galway as part of the Galway Arts Festival.



↓103 **Mark Stedman**

MARK STEDMAN PHOTOGRAPHY

BETA FESTIVAL

Olly Dawkins with 'Data Stories Dublin', a model created by the Data Stories project at Maynooth University in order to map out and assess evidence related to the current housing crisis. Pictured during Beta, a new festival of arts and technology.



←104 **Julien Behal**

FREELANCE

BRIGID 1500

Brigid 1500 officially launched their 2024 festival programme, promising a diverse and spectacular calendar filled with culturally rich events taking place across Kildare. Pictured at the launch event were performers from Luxe Landscape Theatre and Processional Spectacle.

1st

➔ **105 Sam Boal**
ROLLINGNEWS.IE

DUBLIN'S BURNING
Unexpected rioting in Dublin City Centre following a stabbing incident outside a school on Parnell Square.

“**THE JUDGES SAID...**
A comprehensive reportage of a night of chaos during the Dublin riots. This photographer has worked extremely hard in the most trying circumstances and delivered a set of images any news outlet would be delighted with. A worthy winner of first place in this category.



2nd

➔ **106 Dan Linehan**
IRISH EXAMINER

ROAD BOWLING
David Murphy took his fifth Munster senior road bowling championship title with a victory over Martin Coppinger at the Ballincurragh Road, Cork.

“**THE JUDGES SAID...**
A superb set of images of road bowling in Co. Cork – the photographer has beautifully captured all the key moments of this unique traditional sport.



3rd

← **107 Philip Doyle**
IRISH FARMERS JOURNAL

LOUGH NEAGH EELS
Processing eels from Lough Neagh in Toomebridge, Co. Antrim.

“**THE JUDGES SAID...**
An in-depth study of eel processing at Toomebridge, Co. Antrim. The judges were impressed by the colour and variety of images in this reportage.



↑ **108 Nick Bradshaw**
FREELANCE/THE IRISH TIMES

THE JOURNEY - INISHBOFIN SKULLS RETURNED
Stolen skulls finally come home to the island community of Inishbofin off the Galway coast after 133 years for a poignant reburial ceremony at St. Colman's Abbey. Alfred Haddon a researcher with Trinity College and Andrew Dixon had in 1890 travelled to the island and stolen the skulls to further research in a popular contemporary study 'craniometry'.

➔ **109 Andrew Downes**

FREELANCE

DOGS' LIFE

Regulars in the Crane Traditional Music Irish Bar in Galway wait patiently for their portraits for a charity calendar in aid of The Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind and Madra.



➔ **110 David Fitzgerald**

SPORTSFILE

TODAY'S WORLD

A collection of photos of tents around Dublin city centre showing the ever increasing homeless crisis in the capital.



↑ **111 Dan Linehan**

IRISH EXAMINER

HAIR-RAISING DEVASTATION

Rosaleen O'Donnell, proprietor of the HS2 Salon in Midleton, Co. Cork, standing in her hair salon which was destroyed by flood water brought by Storm Babet in October. The torrential flooding in Midleton was the worst in 70 years and the town's flood relief scheme is not due to start till 2025. Storm Babet was the second named storm of the year to hit western Europe. The storm left 100 homes flooded and dozens of businesses in Midleton destroyed.

“ **THE JUDGES SAID...**

The devastating effects of flooding is brought home in this scene as Rosaleen O'Donnell surveys her destroyed hair salon in Midleton, Co. Cork, after flooding caused by Storm Babet in October. 2024 was the warmest year on record and unprecedented flooding events linked to climate change caused havoc in Ireland and throughout Europe.



Winner

↑112 **Mark Condren**

MEDIAHUIS IRELAND/IRISH INDEPENDENT/SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

MOVING

Galway farmer Michael Silke who completed the dangerous migration of 30 of his dry stock herd across a 100 metre wide stretch of the River Shannon, giving his cows and their calves a well-deserved holiday.

“ **THE JUDGES SAID...**

Our winning entry is a beautifully filmed slice of life from rural Ireland. It tells the story of a farmer moving his cows across the River Shannon for pastures new. We follow him as he carries out this evidently risky manoeuvre, the photographer capturing footage on land, on water and in the air. This was an ambitious shoot, but the commitment pays off, with several breathtaking shots in the final edit. While this film perhaps lacked the polish of a couple of other entries in this category - it would benefit from closer attention to audio, for example - we felt it was the most memorable story and a worthy winner.



Highly commended

↑113 **Bryan O'Brien**

THE IRISH TIMES

LAYTOWN

Laytown races in Co.Meath occupies a unique position in the Irish and British racing calendar as it is the only race event run on a beach under the rules of the Irish Horseracing Regulatory Board.



Highly commended

↑114 **Valerie O'Sullivan**

FREELANCE

IN SEARCH OF THE ELUSIVE CUCKOO

One of Ireland's natural migration mysteries may soon be solved as the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) commenced a cross-channel Cuckoo tracking project with the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) to find out just where Irish cuckoos spend their winter months. It is hoped the project will also answer if Irish cuckoos undertake a different migration strategy to their British counterparts across the Irish Sea.



AIB PRESS PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR 2024
ALAN BETSON
THE IRISH TIMES



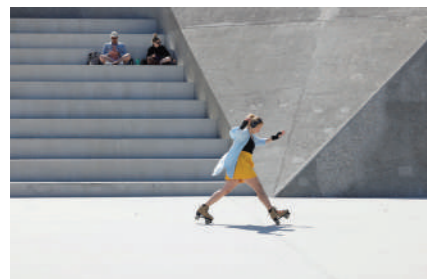
News (page 2) BURNING CITY



News (page 3) RELIEVED



News (page 5) TUBRIDY AT THE DÁIL



Daily Life and People (page 11) SKATER GIRL



Daily Life and People (page 12) CLIMBING WITH CHARLIE



Daily Life and People (page 13) MOON SWIM



Politics (page 36) IMPROVING FOREIGN AFFAIRS



Politics (page 36) ELECTRIC BUS



Arts and Entertainment (page 40) TEARS OF JOY – NIALL HORAN FANS



Arts and Entertainment (page 41) WHO'S LOOKING AT WHO?

“ THE JUDGES SAID ...

The overall Photographer of the Year Award goes to a photographer who showed huge versatility. Their portfolio showcased outstanding news photography as well as a strong eye for quirky daily life images. They are well able to compose images and have a strong sense of design, a keen perceptive eye and the ability to find the unusual in the everyday. The judges were unanimous in their selection.



Pictured are PPAI President David Branigan and AIB CEO Colin Hunt with last year's award winner Mark Condren. Mark is holding his photo of a woman in a displaced persons camp in Mogadishu, Somalia who had walked for days when her crops failed and her animals died. Somalia is the second most climate-vulnerable country in the world. Photo: Shane O'Neill, Coalesce



Mary Whitelaw, Chief Sustainability and Corporate Affairs Officer, AIB, and David Branigan, President of the Press Photographers Association of Ireland with the AIB Sustainability Award trophy, which will be awarded for an image, selected from across all of the entries, that best reflects the theme of sustainability in daily modern life. Photo: Arthur Carron Photography

www.pressphotographers.ie

Previous winners

2023	Mark Condren
2022	James Crombie
2021	James Crombie
2020	Mark Condren
2019	Tom Honan
2018	Cyril Byrne
2017	Gerry Mooney
2016	Mark Condren
2015	Alan Betson
2014	Julien Behal
2013	Mark Condren
2012	Julien Behal
2011	Mark Condren
2009	Mark Condren
2008	Steve Humphreys
2007	Niall Carson
2006	Bryan O'Brien
2005	Matt Kavanagh
2004	Alan Betson
2003	Frank Miller
2002	Bryan O'Brien
2001	Brenda Fitzsimons
2000	Bryan O'Brien
1999	Bryan O'Brien
1998	Frank Miller
1997	Alan Betson
1996	Frank Miller
1995	Bryan O'Brien
1994	Crispin Rodwell
1993	Matt Kavanagh
1992	Matt Kavanagh
1991	Dara Mac Dónaill
1990	Billy Stickland
1989	James Meehan
1988	John Carlos
1987	Jim O'Kelly
1986	Eric Luke
1985	Peter Thursfield
1984	Alan Lewis
1983	Peter Thursfield
1982	Tom Lawlor
1981	Austin Finn
1980	Peter Thursfield
1979	Brian Barron
1978	Colman Doyle

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