

# The Claretian Echo

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**St Clarets GFC: It's like a good soap on the telly—you just can't miss a week**

## Jumping Jehovahs

### News in brief

Soon-to-be father John McDermott, is this week reported to be struggling to master the Lamaze technique, this despite the fact that the due date for his child is merely weeks away.

Despite receiving extra tuition from experienced father Paddy Donaghy, the problem continues. John has also been assured that his ability to breath properly will be irrelevant on the day, but so keen is Big Mac to be the perfect father, that he is refusing to heed any words of comfort.

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St Clarets GFC have this week issued an appeal to members of the public to be on the look-out for current senior players Sean and Joe McCarthy, who has not been seen anywhere near Kingshill Ave in the past two months.

If anyone should stumble across the pair, could they please return them to Hayes Rugby Club, no later than 8pm on Tuesday.

Speculation is mounting this week linking rugby star Gavin Henson's recent sacking with Claretian prospect Conor Healy.

Rumours circulating both Edinburgh and Cardiff in the past few days, suggest that Henson's highly publicised drunken humiliation



**A study of sobriety: Healy leaving home on Thursday.**

onboard a Flybe flight to Cardiff and subsequent dismissal by Cardiff Blues, may well have been as

a direct result of a weekend of heavy drinking, along with the young Clarets defender.

Healy, who recently turned eighteen, was said to have been "on a mission" last Thursday week and was seen entering *Captain Morgan's* public house in Hayes early in the afternoon, along with one of his advisors, with the two of them described as being "like a pair of thirsty camels".

Conor didn't leave the bar all afternoon and failed to attend training later that evening.

In fact, Conor was not seen again until Sunday morning, when he was discovered lying on the front doorstep of his home at 6.30am by a friendly American Jehovah Witness called Todd, who was busy spreading the word around Hayes.

Healy was said to have been virtually unconscious and dressed in an orange cardigan, a Cardiff Blues jersey, wearing a Flybe cabin crew hat, clutching a

Charlotte Church CD to his chest and mumbling something about a hangover.



**What in the Jehovah! Evangelist Todd discovers Conor on Sunday.**

As a result of this escapade, Conor was unable to make his competitive senior debut for St Clarets in the club's opening game of the season against North London Shamrocks.

However, as always, Conor's protective mother Patricia defended her son, describing his conduct as "a rite of passage", although she did add angrily: "That CD was the closest Conor got to any church last Sunday."

### Silver raider

Police in west London are this week warning drivers to be on the look-out for members of the so called "You're not Michael Joyce gang".

The gang, who are not said to be dangerous, recently came to prominence in the Hayes area and are said to be targeting drivers of silver cars.

Their signature move is to jump into the passenger seat of any single-occupancy silver car they see stationary anywhere, look at the driver and say "You're not Michael Joyce", before exiting the car and making their getaway on foot.

Chief superintendent Bill Williams of the Met has urged drivers of silver cars to make sure that their doors are locked when driving, so as to reduce the risk of being targeted by the gang.

Hayes resident Ahmed Zakir Patel was the first reported victim of the gang, when he was pounced upon while waiting for his son in the car park of Hayes rugby club last week.

Obviously still shaken, Mr Patel told the Echo: "I was sitting minding my own business and next thing this man jumped into my car, looked me in the eye and said: 'You're not Michael Joyce' before jumping out again.

Mr Patel was able to provide police with an accurate description and they have issued a

photo-fit picture of the gang leader, who is said to be confused by not dangerous, and speaks with a thick Cork accent, which can make it almost impossible to understand what he's saying.

Police have moved quickly to ease growing concerns that these incidents could be in anyway linked to the reign of terror perpetrated in the late 1980s by the notorious brother and sister gang of Marie and Denis, known universally as the "McPolos". The duo tormented VW Polo owners in the Hayes area, by habitually driving off in any random white Polo they found parked anywhere.

Although she was never brought to justice, the female ring leader, known at the time only as "Missy M", is said to have since turned her back on such activity, having married a Galway man of high standing within the St Clarets.



**Have you seen this man near a silver car?**