

**It's IFTA time**  
 Award season comes to Dublin, with the announcement of the nominations for the sixth annual Irish Film and Television Awards **Ireland**  
**Clever cuts to save your bacon**  
 From cycling to work to credit card hopping, cutting back doesn't have to be painful, writes Fiona Reddan

Friday, January 9, 2009

## Ógra SF criticised for ambush site visit

GERRY MORIARTY, Northern Editor

AN SDLP councillor has pulled out of an Ógra Shinn Féin weekend conference in Newcastle, Co Down, because he said it glorified "mass murder".

Unionist politicians have also condemned a conference event described as a "visit to site of Warrenpoint ambush". This is a visit to Narrow Water near Warrenpoint where, in 1979, two IRA bombs killed 18 British soldiers.

Minister for Education Caitríona Ruane and Mid-Ulster Assembly member Barry McElduff are among a number of Sinn Féin members who will speak at the conference, which will also deal with issues such as the H-Block hunger strikes and current politics.

The Ógra Shinn Féin website carries details of the conference and shows an aerial shot of Narrow Water with the caption "Visit to site of Warrenpoint Ambush".

At Narrow Water in August 1979 – the same day that Lord Louis Mountbatten and three others were killed in an IRA bomb explosion in Mullaghmore, Co Sligo – 18 British soldiers, most of them members of the Paratroop Regiment, were killed in the IRA explosions.

The SDLP's youngest councillor Matthew McDermott, who is on Lisburn Council, has withdrawn from a panel discussion tomorrow because of the Narrow Water reference. "The people of Ireland year after year democratically rejected the IRA," Mr McDermott said. "IRA terrorism divided, not united, the people of Ireland."

DUP South Down MLA Jim Wells said most people in the constituency would be appalled that the youth wing of Sinn Féin had on its conference programme "an outing to celebrate and gloat over one of the most dreadful events in Northern Ireland's history".

Ógra Shinn Féin Newcastle spokesman Fra Cochrane said the conference would include a number of historical tours.

"Mr Wells needs to realise that republicans fought a justifiable war against the British war machine here in Ireland, just as the Palestinian

### ADVERTISEMENT

### Latest »

- 18:59 [Tsvangirai seeks meeting with Mugabe on power-sharing](#)
- 18:15 [Federer falls foul of Murray again](#)
- 17:34 [Mannion requests removal of controversial contract clause](#)
- 17:21 [Strauss to lead on every front for now](#)
- 17:02 [Blagojevich impeached after Obama senate seat claims](#)
- 16:56 [Special investigations yield €55m for Revenue in 2008](#)
- 16:52 [Israel rejects truce call and vows to continue offensive](#)
- 16:50 [Raiders escape with firearms from Tipperary house](#)

### Popular Stories

#### Most Read

- 1 [Limerick fears jobs disaster as Dell lays off 1,900 staff](#)
- 2 [Quinn 'very much' regrets investments](#)
- 3 [Girl's drink-drive study helps breathe new life into science](#)
- 4 [Deluge of complaints over EUR 20 hotel room offer](#)
- 5 [Minister supports Aer Lingus egm over Mannion](#)

people are currently doing in Gaza," Mr Cochrane added.

"The British Paratroop Regiment are notorious killers who, amongst a litany of other crimes in the six counties, murdered 13 innocent people in Derry on Bloody Sunday. The British soldiers killed at Narrow Water were combatants in a bloody conflict where all sides suffered."



This article appears in the print edition of the Irish Times

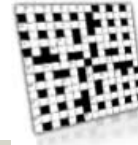
## Your Vote »

Do you think the Government could have done anything to avoid the job losses in Dell's Limerick plant?

« Yes No »

Results

## Crossword Club »



Today's Interactive Irish Times Crosaire and Simplex crosswords, plus 10 years of crossword archive.

ADVERTISEMENT

## Sudoku »



Download and print the daily Irish Times sudoku grid

ADVERTISEMENT

CLASSIFIED

Lakeshore Lodge, Lissarda, Co. Cork Price: €1,400,000



Homes

Bedrooms: 9 See More »

Select your categories

Next »



At last, Audi makes a four-ring circus out of the middle-class SUV market

Find »

I am a

Looking for a

Located

Only with photos:

Next »

© 2009 irishtimes.com