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FIRST PIC



KEANE GETAWAY

MOB BOSS CHRISTY BACK HOME AFTER HIT: PAGES 18&19

IRELAND'S WORLD CUP CHEER

SEE SPORT

NICOLA TALLANT EXCLUSIVE

GILLIGAN THE STING

● Ireland's first family of crime in bid to flog their €450k Spanish boozer for under-the-counter cash...to undercover  team



DEAL: Treacy Gilligan tried to flog her pub to our undercover team

DRUG LORD'S BID TO GET BACK IN THE GAME: PAGES 10,11,12&13



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THE GILLIGAN STING

GILLIGANS' €450K LAST-CHANCE SALOON

UNDERCOVER: Treacy Gilligan is filmed by our team as she tries to sell boozier in sun

LOANS: Banks set to swoop on Alicante pub

THE DAUGHTER of Ireland's former godfather of crime, Treacy Gilligan, tried to flog an undercover *Sunday World* team her Spanish pub for 'black money' after we set her up with two prospective Russian mafia buyers.

While she insisted that The Judges Chambers pub in Alicante is hers and has nothing to do with her father John, we understand he is hoping for a cut of the sale so he can get back in the drugs business.

Just two years ago Treacy filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court claiming she makes just €200 a week from the watering hole.

She said she and her daughter would be homeless if the State didn't give her back her home in Lucan, which had been seized by the CAB.

She is not the only Gilligan to have cried poverty under oath. Her mother Geraldine told a court in 2013 that she survives on weekly Jobseeker's Allowance of €186.

Dundalk District Court heard up to 16 bank accounts in the names of

Ireland's first family of crime desperate to get back in the game as they try to flog pub to 'Russian mafia'

By NICOLA TALLANT in Alicante, Spain

the Gilligan family existed in 1996 and over €15m passed through them.

Most of the money was withdrawn in July 1996 – a month after the brutal assassination of journalist Veronica Guerin by the Gilligan mob.

All four Gilligans – John and Geraldine, daughter Treacy and son Darren – have been granted free legal aid, with the taxpayer footing their court challenges against the Criminal Assets Bureau.

Boasted

But when she met our undercover team, Treacy was far more bling than she has previously claimed to be.

● She **BOASTED** that she can pull €3,000 a month renting the pub out, but says doesn't need the hassle;

● **OFFERED** to take €300k in

'black money' – cash under the table – in exchange for the pub

● Said she **WANTED** another €300k for a big villa she is trying to flog nearby. She also told us that she owns another house near Torrevieja on the Costa Blanca.

The Gilligans are desperate to sell the pub for dirty money before the banks swoop for a €250,000 loan owed on it. Sources say that John is finally hoping to lay his hands on the cash so he can get back in the game.

The family are due up in the Supreme Court tomorrow where they will continue to fight an epic 17-year battle with the CAB about the proceeds of crime.

Jessbrook Equestrian Centre was sold for a snip at €500,000, but is now back on the market with a new name, Emerald International Equestrian Centre.

The family are also fighting orders against Jessbrook House in Enfield, the bungalow home where Geraldine Gilligan lives and which is attached to the large equestrian centre, the former family home at Corduff Avenue in Blanchardstown, Dublin, and two houses in Lucan, owned by Treacy and her brother Darren.

Ludicrous

The family have argued that Jessbrook House and Willsbrook View, a large three-bed bought for Treacy, are family homes.

Among the ludicrous claims they have put before the courts are that none of the assets were bought by the proceeds of crime, but were instead the result of John Gilligan's Midas touch on the horses.

Earlier this year, Geraldine told us she will "be taken out of her home in a box" and she still insists that she

is the rightful owner of the entire Jessbrook complex.

The family have racked up more than €20million in legal fees in a mammoth, two-decade battle to hang on to their properties, with the tab for their lawyers being picked up by the hard-working taxpayer.

"I'm still fighting for that arena over there," Geraldine told the *Sunday World* last January.

"I'm fighting for everything. It was taken off me illegally. They didn't go through the court rules and I am sure that the Supreme Court will give me justice.

"I'm still in this house and I am going to stay here until they drag me out in a box. I'm sure a lot of people would be delighted to hear that, but I'm here every day, every day, every day.

"This has nothing to do with the proceeds of crime – that's not the point. The point is that the public

WORLD IS WATCHING



HIGH LIFE: Gilligans, Brian Meehan, Peter Mitchell and (right) Jessbrook

BROKE:
Gilligan
needs cash
to rebuild
empire

coffers have lost out big time on this thing – it's the public that should have made millions."

Gilligan and his gang imported a staggering €60million worth of cannabis into Ireland in a two-year period and he went on a lavish spending spree, building up an impressive property portfolio.

Senior CAB officers first identified his Irish assets, but then turned to Spain, where they believe he purchased a pub, five warehouses, two boats, six houses, two cars and a construction firm.

Investigations found that all had been placed in the names of key associates.

Top of the CAB's list was the Judges Chambers, which was initially bought by Liam Judge – a bagman for Gilligan from Allenwood in Co. Kildare.

He was a lover of Treacy and died of a heart attack in 2004. The pub transferred to Gilligan's daughter despite no official will being left.

Gilligan was

FIGHT:
Geraldine
Gilligan

meticulous in distancing himself from assets. However, officers believe Judge bought land and the pub under orders from 'Factory' John.

He was a regular visitor to Gilligan, while he was in Belmarsh jail awaiting extradition for the murder of Veronica Guerin. It was there, officers believe, that he gave Judge access to foreign accounts holding millions in drug money.

Gilligan Snr has always denied he has anything to do with the family's assets in Spain.

He claimed: "My ex-wife and my daughter are running a bar somewhere in Spain. I don't know where exactly, as I have never been to the country in my life, but I think it is 50 minutes outside Alicante. It is a nice pub, run honestly."

But like everything in the life of Ireland's most hated crime family, officers believe the claims are simply part of a tapestry of lies.

Over the years sources say that the Gilligan's extravagant lifestyle has whittled away a lot of the nest egg he believed he had invested in Spain.

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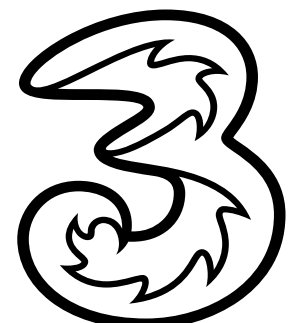


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YOU CAN PAY IN 'BLACK MONEY': SEE PAGES 12 & 13

THE GILLIGAN STING

‘The price is €450k...the mortgage is €250k for the deeds and the balance is black money.’

By NICOLA TALLANT



IT'S 6pm and under the searing Spanish sun we are finally ready to attempt a 'sting' on what was once the first family of Irish crime.

We are gathered in Alicante, in the heart of the Costa Blanca, and not far from the pub once identified by the Criminal Assets Bureau as the jewel in drug lord John Gilligan's crown.

The Judges Chambers is up for sale and our sources say that the Gilligans are so desperate for money they are hoping to do a cash deal with Russian or Eastern European criminals on the Costa.

It's known out here as 'black money' - suitcases of cash with no questions asked.

In just two years, 'Factory' John's gang imported €60million worth of cannabis into Ireland, but now, sources say, the family are on their knees.

In a last throw of the dice they are trying to offload the remains of their empire for cash, as Gilligan desperately attempts to get back in the game and protect himself from the hitmen who have twice tried to kill him since his release from jail.

We pick up a Spanish mobile phone and our men, who are posing as interested Russian mafia buyers, dial a number which we are told will get us straight to the heart of the paranoid Gilligan clan.

Gangsters

A few rings later a man answers and we inquire about viewing the Judges Chambers Pub, but he says the line is bad and he will get someone to call us back.

Within minutes, Treacy Gilligan is on the line and, without realising, is about to do business with the *Sunday World*.

"We meet tomorrow? Tomorrow?" our man asks, but Treacy feels she can't wait that long to meet a possible cash buyer.

"Meet tonight?" she says, eagerly agreeing to show our team around the terraced goldmine, which was once estimated to be worth €1million and which for years was a home away from home from Irish and U.K. gangsters.

"Maybe two hours? I can be there. We will meet at the bar. It is my bar," she says.

We agree to rendezvous at 8pm and shortly beforehand take up positions in order to watch our target.

True to her word, Treacy arrives driving a battered old navy Volkswagen Golf, and proceeds to light up a cigarette as she pulls open the shutters and doors of the Judges Chambers Bar. The years have not been kind.

Our men pull up in a black SUV and we have made sure they look the part - burly, tattooed and dripping in designer clothes.

They chat together in Russian as they walk up the steps to The Chambers.

Treacy gives them a guided tour of the large outdoor terrace, complete with electric BBQ cooking station and room for 80 tables.

Inside she is forthcoming about selling up. "I was living here for 13 years, but now I live in Ireland," she says. "I moved back because I have a daughter who is eight years of age, because the schools here are not so good. It's a beautiful bar and it's a busy, busy, busy bar."

She is enthusiastic about the money that can be made at the Chambers - €3,000 a month in rent and thousands more in takings. She constantly insists: "It's my bar."

Our Russian undercover agent informs her that many people tell him that it is actually Treacy's father who owns the bar and that perhaps he is the one we need to do business with.

"No, I am the boss," she says. "My father was in prison for 17 years. He is out now. So it's my bar."

We ask her why he served such a lengthy sentence, but she makes no mention of the murder of journalist Veronica Guerin, ordered by her father, and the resulting collapse of the biggest drugs gang Ireland had ever seen.

"Hash, into Ireland. Only the hash, no cocaine or any of the other stuff," she says.

Our man asks would she be prepared to take some cash for the bar, which has been closed for weeks since a lease holder pulled out after allegedly being threatened by John Gilligan, who arrived demanding cash.



TREACY IN

"My boss ask me if you would take any cash," our man asks.

Treacy nods her head in approval. "That's not a problem - the black money?"

We say our buyer can show the money.

Dropped

"No problem, no problem," she enthuses. "I have one mortgage on the bar. The mortgage is €250,000 and this is the minimum which can go on the 'escritura' [title deeds]. We can sell for this and the rest is possible in black money."

"The price is €450,000. This is the minimum because two months before I had it on for €560,000 and I have already dropped the price. So the mortgage is for €250,000 for the deeds and the balance then is black money."



FIRST FAMILY OF CRIME: John, Geraldine and Treacy Gilligan

CLAN'S COSTA DEL SALE



GOLDMINE: Treacy shows 'buyers' around the pub



'Don't mind the newspapers, my father only ever done hash'

Treacy Gilligan

NOW WATCH THE VIDEO
WWW.SUNDAYWORLD.COM

DESPERATE: Treacy was quick to do a deal with our undercover Russian team

BID TO OFFLOAD BOOZER FOR DODGY MONEY

"Everything is perfect with this bar, the licence, everything. The taxes are paid up to date... everything." Our man makes his excuses and arranges to call Treacy later. He needs to speak to his boss in Russia. *We phone her later tell her our boss is happy with the price, but we need to meet again to clear up a few matters.* We make an arrangement to meet the following afternoon. We are late and our man tells her he drank too much Vodka and got delayed. "I know I had a few meself last night," she laughs. "The price is the best what you can do?" we ask her. "How much cash can you take? You said the mortgage is €250,000 for the bank and that has to be official, but can you take more cash?" "It's possible," she says. "How much like?" "If we agree a deal? Can you con-

sider taking official €150,000 or maybe €180,000 and the rest cash? Treacy tells us that is very much possible. "Perfect. But the price is the best I can do. Before I was selling for €560,000 and I've already dropped it down to €450,000. It is the biggest terrace in the area. You can fit 80 tables outside. Actually it is possible to put 100 tables outside." **Problems** "I live in Ireland now and I tried to rent it out for the last year to a friend. But there were problems. I don't want to rent it any more. Every day I had problems. But if your boss wants to buy it and rent it out he will get €3,000 a month no problem. "I will get you the documents and no problem then we can talk cash." Our man asks her if she is happy

that it will take us three or more trips to bring the cash, but Treacy is a veteran when it comes to dodgy money. "I understand totally. Yes of course." Happy with the deal Treacy continues to chat with our men. "Ah I had too much Bacardi last night. I'm sorry, I'm all sweaty. "I am going back to Ireland next week. I have two houses here too so I come back and forth five or six times a year. "I have one house up here [she points to a housing estate near Via Park II] and another house near Torre Vieja - 15 minutes away near the new hospital. It is a big villa I have there and I am trying to sell it too." Our man tells her that he will call later. When we call we have concerns about the pub ownership. Our boss in Russia wants us to meet Treacy's

father John Gilligan to make sure he too is happy with the deal. "My father is in England, he doesn't even live here. Don't mind the things in the newspapers. He only done the hash. It's my bar." She then asks us would we like to see the Villa in Torre Vieja. She is looking for €300,000 cash for it and it might be suitable as a base for our boss. **Complex** Later we text her and ask for an address and time to meet. The Villa is in Los Balcones she says, but we can meet at The Filton Centre - a small shopping complex nearby. The Gilligans have been synonymous with Los Balcones. It was at this complex in a gated villa that Gilligan's cohort 'Fat' Tony Armstrong was arrested in

connection with the murder of The Westies in 2006. The remains of the vicious Dublin crime bosses Shane Coates and Stephen Sugg were dug from underneath six tons of quick-setting concrete in an industrial estate about 10 miles outside the town. It is also the estate where drug dealer John McKeown was living before he disappeared without trace in 2007. It is suspected that he was set up and murdered by one of Gilligan's cohorts on the Costa Blanca. *It will be interesting to see if either of these villas have now come into the ownership of the Gilligans or if it is just coincidence that the large house with the pool is simply in the same area.* But we may never find out. The following day Treacy has gone to ground. She doesn't answer our calls, nor our texts. Maybe she drank too much Bacardi. Or maybe she finally smelt the proverbial rat and realised too late that this time it was she who had been set up.

SUNDAY WORLD

THE PEOPLE'S PAPER

WORLD EXCLUSIVE



AFTER A 20-YEAR HUNT, WE FINALLY PICK UP...



GOTCHA: Our girl, Nicola Tallant, (far left) catches up with George 'The Penguin' Mitchell in his bolthole in Germany

The Lost Godfather

THE PENGUIN

READ THE FULL EXPLOSIVE STORY: PAGES 2,3,4&5



THEATRE OF WAR

France vows to avenge death of its youth

THE WORLD united with France last night as it vowed to hunt down the barbaric IS terror army that has declared "war on humanity."

Eight suicide bombers massacred 129 – mostly young people – in the worst act of violence in France since World War II.

Up to 100 music fans were murdered at a rock concert in the Bataclan Theatre in the most horrific of six co-ordinated atrocities.

Last night frantic families posted haunting images of missing loved ones online as the grim task of identifying the dead began.

It was reported that one of the suicide bombers was a Syrian "refugee" who landed in Greece in recent months.

FULL STORY - SEE PAGES 8,9,10,11&12



INSIDE YOUR SUNDAY WORLD TODAY

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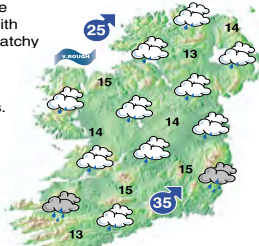


OUT OF THIS WORLD TURN TO PAGE 25

WEATHER

Information supplied by **MeteoGroup**

Today: It will be dull and wet with outbreaks of patchy rain or drizzle. Moderate to fresh south-westerly winds. Very mild again. Max temp 14-17C (57-63F).



Four day Outlook

MON	TUES	WEDS	THUR
9C (48F) 7C (45F)	12C (54F) 6C (43F)	13C (55F) 9C (48F)	11C (52F) 7C (45F)

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THE LOST GODFATHER



By **NICOLA TALLANT**

THIS IS the moment when Ireland's elusive 'Godfather of Crime' realised the *Sunday World* had finally caught up with him after 20 years in hiding.

George 'the Penguin' Mitchell hasn't been snapped in more than two decades and the last thing he expected as he ambled up the street of a sleepy German village was to be confronted by our team.

The 65-year-old has changed his appearance drastically, but the unmistakable waddle that earned him his nickname from one-time pal John Traynor is still hard to miss.

We have been watching him for days at his new base in the Mosel Valley in the south of Germany, where he has recently settled after leaving Spain.

Luxury

He rarely comes out, opting instead to hide away in the luxury apartment he has rented on the banks of the Mosel river.

When he does, he is collected by his friend Herman Xennt, a Dutch national with a shady past. They meet at various restaurants and coffee shops in the idyllic town of Trarbach, and mingle with the tourists who flock here.

For Mitchell, it's just another day of anonymity in this little valley, far from the huge drug markets of Europe which have made him a very, very wealthy man.

But his undercover life as businessman 'Mr George Green' is about to be shattered – and for the first time in years the nation will see the face of the man who has grown fat and rich on the misery of thousands.

"George, can I have a word with you?" I ask as he makes his way up the street, his vast frame swaying from side to side. "How are you doing?"

Initially he is confused. "I'm grand thanks," he says, his Dublin accent still pronounced.

He looks again. He glances under my baseball cap. His eyes darken, his expression changes and he almost spits: "F**k off."

He takes out his mobile phone and barks orders: "Let them know exactly what is going on here." I follow him up the street.

"We haven't seen you in a long time. Have you settled in here?" I ask him. He strides on.

"The last time we heard from

you, you said you were a legitimate businessman. Is that the case?" He ignores me again.

"Gardai and other police forces believe you to be an international drug trafficker. Do you have anything to say?"

He keeps his calm and walks purposely on, but the look in his eyes says it all – his sheer hatred and contempt for the *Sunday World* and all it represents is evident.

Only weeks ago, this newspaper was hailed for its coverage of

organised crime when the Court of Criminal Appeal overturned a €900,000 defamation award to Sligo drug dealer Martin McDonagh.

Coverage

The judgement recognised that society needs to protect and encourage the coverage of crime – something the *Sunday World* has led the way in since it was founded in 1973. Mitchell has been ranked as one of

the top-20 drug traffickers in Europe and is currently under investigation by a number of jurisdictions for his involvement in heroin, cannabis and ecstasy trafficking, as well as fraud and money laundering.

For years we have followed his trail to Amsterdam in Holland, Malaga in Spain, Marrakesh in Morocco and to Kusadasi in Turkey – but the slippery Godfather managed to evade us.

When we finally find him he doesn't quite see us as old friends.

THE MOMENT

WE

Exiled drug lord lives as 'Mr Green' in German

THE SECRET LIFE OF CRIME BARON MITCHELL



ELUSIVE: Nicola Tallant confronts a shaken George Mitchell



GOTCHA: The Penguin looked fit to explode when we finally tracked him down

NOW WATCH THE VIDEO
WWW.SUNDAYWORLD.COM

THE 'PENGUIN' REALISED THAT...

GOT HIM

town where he hangs out with shady Dutch pal

But then we were the first paper to name him as a major player in the drugs trade, and as the man who tried to organise the murder of CAB officer Barry Galvin.

Today, for the first time, the *Sunday World* details how Mitchell has hidden in plain sight while trying to legitimise his dirty money.

For the past 10 years, the Penguin has remained on the move, often living for months out of hotel rooms. Intelligence relating to Mitchell

was passed on to police in Holland last year. The Dutch authorities informed their Spanish counterparts that his base was in Malaga, where he was living in an ordinary beach-front apartment with his partner and former secretary Khadija Bouchiba.

Sales

There, she had registered a property sales and rental company, while he travelled up and down to Holland and Germany.

Gardaí were informed of his whereabouts and a surveillance operation was mounted on the property where Mitchell and his partner, a Dutch-Moroccan grandmother, lived a low-key existence.

The couple had met in Holland, where Mitchell lived for almost a decade after fleeing Ireland following the murder of journalist Veronica Guerin and the establishment of the Criminal Assets Bureau. In 1998, in his last serious brush with the law, he was caught unload-

ing IR£5million worth of stolen computer equipment from an Irish truck on the outskirts of Amsterdam.

He claimed he was involved in an "import-export company" and insisted he was a legitimate businessman. However, he was jailed for a year.

Tentacles

After his release, police believe he spread his tentacles across Europe – organising drug shipments from Colombian drug cartels, the Russian Mafia, Afghanistan's heroin producers through Turkish agents, along with major shipments of firearms.

At that point, his daughter Rachel and her partner Derek 'Maradona'

Dunne were living in Amsterdam, where he specialised in supplying heroin to Dublin and England. In 2000, Dunne was shot while Rachel and their children looked on.

Around the same time, Mitchell became a close friend of Herman Xennt. The businessman had purchased an old cold-war bunker where he had set up 'Cyberbunker' – a web domain company he was hoping to develop. In 2002, when there was a fire at the premises an Ecstasy-making factory was discovered in an underground area. Xennt denied it had anything to do with him. Meanwhile Mitchell, later moved out of Holland and kept an even lower profile than ever. Until now...

MITCHELL & SECRET CYBER BUNKER: SEE PAGES 4&5

THE LOST GODFATHER

SECRET

Mitchell and the cyber bunker



MANNED
SECURITY
BOOTH

HIGH UP in the hills above the sleepy village of Traben Trarbach in Germany's Mosel Valley lies a premises worthy of a scene from a James Bond movie.

Surrounded by top-of-the-range CCTV cameras, high-security fencing, a communications mast and with its own manned security hut, the former cold-war military bunker boasts an impressive 5,000sq ft of impenetrable underground real estate.

Public documents show that a company registered from the premises in 2014 details that its purpose is for 'data retention' and is owned by one Herman Johan Xennt. His company, Calibour GmbH, has been registered at the local court.

Bizarrely, this is where the focus of a major investigation into the activities of George Mitchell has been traced. Now Dutch national Xennt and his controversial past as an alternative internet provider is under the spotlight.

Xennt, who looks like a Bond villain, lives in the bunker. He is pasty, white-skinned and sports long blonde hair. He rarely shows his face in public, but when he does, it is to

MITCHELL'S GERMAN FORTRESS AND HIS DEALINGS

By **NICOLA TALLANT**



meet with his close friend who has moved to an apartment in the town below.

To the business associates he meets throughout Europe that man is known as Mr George Green. But behind the facade of a respectable investor lies Ireland's most-elusive crime lord – a man so cunning that he has evaded justice for two decades while climbing to the ranks of Europe's elite drug kingpins.

Mitchell, a former biscuit delivery man

from Drimnagh in Dublin, is alleged to have made a fortune moving drugs around Europe.

But with his 65th birthday approaching next May and his health deteriorating due to his weight, Mitchell is desperate to go straight so he can bequeath his millionaire's fortune to those who matter most to him – his family.

Statement

In a statement issued through his lawyer this week, Mitchell told the *Sunday World* that he had nothing to do with drugs.

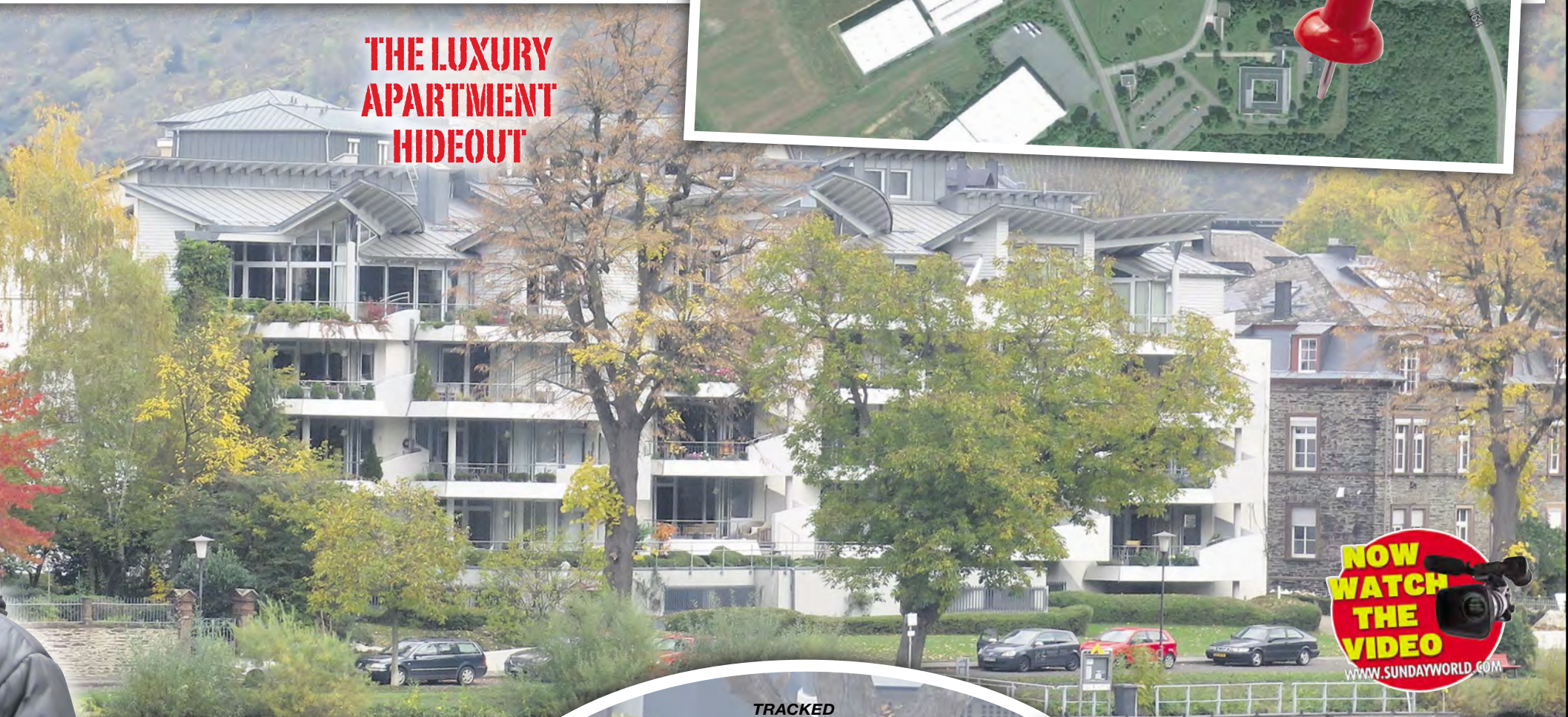
"I understand that your newspaper has carried repeated stories to the effect that Mr Mitchell is engaged in drug trafficking and that he is wanted for such offences," the statement read. "This is completely untrue. The Irish Government recently issued Mr Mitchell with a full passport. He travels freely throughout Europe."

Sources in Ireland confirmed that Mitchell was issued a passport back in 2007. However, while Mitchell might insist that he isn't engaged in drug trafficking – Europol has a different view.

HIDEAWAY FOR PENGUIN AND SHADY PAL.



SHADY PAST: Ecstasy factory was found in bunker owned by Herman Xennt



THE LUXURY APARTMENT HIDEOUT



TRACKED DOWN: George Mitchell at his flash apartment in sleepy village



WITH NOTORIOUS DUTCH FRIEND

Last year, they listed him in the top 20 dealers in Europe and a multi-agency special investigation team have had him in their sights ever since.

Special

Police in Holland, Spain and Germany have had Mitchell under surveillance for more than six months. They have been monitoring the meetings he has had throughout Europe, including trips to Antwerp in Belgium, where he regularly buys and sells gold.

It is understood that Mitchell's uncanny sixth sense that he was under surveillance sparked a move from his hideout in Malaga in Spain earlier this summer to rural Germany and to the home of his long-term pal Xennt.

Every day Xennt, or a young associate with Rasta dreadlocks, believed to be an innocent computer expert working for the pair, collect Mitchell from his luxury apartment on the banks of the Mosel. The group drive to local restaurants or bars where they conduct 'business' meetings, details of which are

being collated.. Officers suspect the pair are developing a high-end communication system from Xennt's bunker, which would be of huge interest to international criminal outfits across the world and to high-end corporate operations who do not want their systems compromised.

Controversial

His property, named About The Vineyards, isn't Xennt's first nuclear bunker, nor is he a virgin of high-end cyber control. In Kloetinge in Holland, in the late 1990s, he bought his first cold-war cast-off and was involved in the set-up of 'Cyberbunker' - a service provider which acted as a host for some of the Wikileaks material, as well as other controversial sites.

The bunker caught fire in 2002 and when the blaze was tamed an ecstasy factory was found. Xennt insisted he had simply rented out the space where the MDMA pressing machines were found, but Cyberbunker went on to get entangled in more and more controversy.

Most recently, in April 2013, Sven Olaf Kampuis, a vocal spokesman for Cyberbunker, was arrested in a dingy flat in Barcelona.

It was discovered that he had used an old van as a mobile unit and had, in the words of the international media "almost broken the internet", plunging the world into cyber darkness. He has yet to be tried, but was returned to the Netherlands.

Police believe Mitchell's connection with Xennt dates back 15 years when he was living in Holland and after he was arrested and jailed there for his part in the theft of computer parts.

NEXT WEEK: MORE EXPLOSIVE MITCHELL REVELATIONS

CLASH OF THE CLANS

GANGLAND ROCKED

KILLER

THIS IS the incredible photograph which shows two gunmen, one wearing a dress, fleeing from the Regency Hotel following the most shocking gangland slaying in Irish criminal history.

In a scene straight out of *Reservoir Dogs*, one starts to remove his blonde wig as he runs for a getaway van which is carrying up to four men disguised as armed Gardai.

The second gunman doesn't even cover his face as he runs from the hotel, where the body of gangster David Byrne is lying in reception.

Spectacular

Seconds later, the six-man hit-team speed out of the car park of the north Dublin hotel, leaving Ireland's criminal underworld changed forever.

The *Sunday World* understands that associates of crime lord Gerry 'the Monk' Hutch claim to have hired the team of assassins from the U.K. and paid €350,000 for the spectacular attack in the glare of the world's media.

It is understood that Daniel Kinahan and his brother Christopher Jnr were the targets of the shooting, but fled along with Liam Byrne. David Byrne (35), was also running for cover, but tripped and fell at the hotel's reception, where he was coldly assassinated.

Last night, cartel boss Daniel Kinahan and 'Fat' Freddie Thompson met in the city as they prepared for all-out war on the streets of Dublin.

Minutes before our snap was taken, the duo, one in full make-up and dressed as a woman, had mingled with the crowds at the weigh-in for the Clash of the Clans, an MGM-sponsored fight night which was due to take place at the National Stadium last night.

Spectators heard one gunman shout "he's not here, I can't find him", before shots erupted in the conference room.

Within seconds two men dressed in full Garda ERU uniforms and carrying Kalashnikovs targeted drug dealer David Byrne and shot him dead, injuring his associates Sean McGovern and Aaron Bolger.

SHOOT-OUT:
Aaron Bolger
and (inset) Sean
McGovern and
David Byrne



WE SNAP HOTEL HIT

By **NICOLA TALLANT**



In the panic that followed, the two shooters ran to a car park firing off shots and eventually emerged from the hotel where they calmly made their way to the getaway car.

The driver, also dressed in an ERU uniform, then slowly drove to an electric gate and used a job to open it before driving away.

The military precision of the operation was extraordinary and, last night, as Gardaí across the city gathered to discuss the fallout, few were left under any illusion but a gangland war like no other has been officially declared.

Last night, senior Kinahan mob associates were already vowing revenge and 'Fat' Freddie flew back into the country on Friday night.

Yesterday, Thompson arrived at

his uncle's, and father of the slain criminal, James 'Jaws' Byrne's home in Crumlin in a bullet-proof vest. Liam Byrne was also at his parent's house, where friends and neighbours were offering their condolences to the family.

Identify

Mob boss Daniel Kinahan also arrived at the house at Raleigh Square to offer his sympathies to veteran criminal Jaws and wife Sadie.

Gardaí are looking through CCTV footage of the incident and photographs taken by spectators at the event to identify the shooters.

Sources say that associates of Hutch are the clear suspects and they are investigating if the gunmen were hired assassins or local Dublin criminals.

Yesterday, Gardaí said they had no

Picture ©

**SUNDAY
WORLD**
THE PEOPLE'S PAPER

HOW WE
TRACKED
FEUD IN
UNDERWORLD



● THE bloody shoot-out which erupted at a Dublin hotel on Friday was shocking, but far from unpredictable.

Since the murder of Gary Hutch last September, the Sunday World has led the way in detailing the simmering feud between two of Ireland's most dangerous gangs.

● On September 27, 2015, we revealed how gangster Gary Hutch 'Paid in Blood' for crossing the Kinahans – a murder which would spark this bloody feud.

● On November 8, 2015, we exclusively revealed how the first shots of the war were taken when convicted criminal Liam Roe – a cousin of 'Fat' Freddie Thompson – was lucky to escape with his life

after shots were fired at him outside a boxing event in Co. Dublin.

● We also revealed on January 10, 2016, how Gardaí had taken the unprecedented step of warning more than 20 people – including members of the Hutch clan – that their lives were under threat following an emergency meeting in Dublin.

● On January 17, 2016, we detailed how the Byrne clan were the prime targets in the simmering war – eerily predicting the death of gangster David Byrne (far right) this week.

● As the tensions continued to build, we revealed how associates of crime lord Gerry 'the Monk' Hutch have taken out a sinister gangland insurance policy in our edition on January 24, 2016.

BY BRAZEN ASSASSINATION



HEELS

IN COLD BLOOD: Gunman leaves the Regency Hotel after brutal murder



TEAM AS KILLING SPARKS ALL-OUT WAR

information that any incident was going to take place at the hotel and in a show of force brought out their top brass to allay the fears of the public.

At an appeal for information, Assistant Commissioners Jack Nolan, John O'Mahony and Derek Byrne were joined by the Detective Chief Superintendents from Drugs and Organised Crime, the National Bureau of Criminal Investigation and local officers from Ballymun where the investigation is centred.

Gardaí want information about the movement of the silver Ford Transit van that was used in the gun attack.

"Did anybody see this van in the vicinity of Swords Road, Griffith Avenue or the Charlemont Estate in Marino between 2.30pm and 3pm or at any time in any location in the last number of days," Nolan said.

They said six people were involved in the incident. Three were wearing police style uniforms similar to a SWAT team uniform, including metal helmets.

For months, since the murder of Gary Hutch (right) in Spain, a feud has been simmering between the Hutch family and the Kinahan mob, who are the biggest drug outfit shipping cocaine and weapons into Ireland.

Raised

Last November at a boxing event at the Red Cow Inn, Liam Roe survived an attempted shooting when two men believed to be associates of Hutch pulled up and raised a gun at him. He was also at the Regency when the shooting occurred.

Since the incident at the Red Cow, it

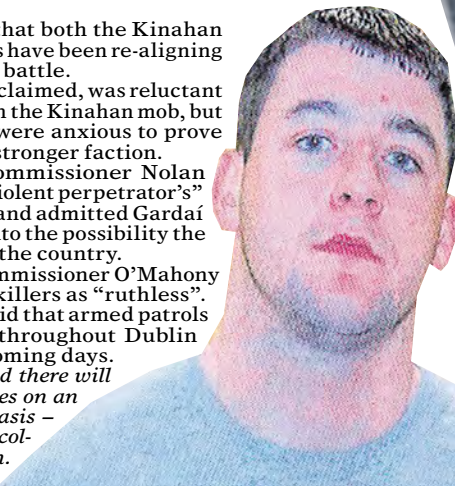
is understood that both the Kinahan and Hutch sides have been re-aligning themselves for battle.

Hutch, it was claimed, was reluctant to go to war with the Kinahan mob, but his associates were anxious to prove they were the stronger faction.

Assistant Commissioner Nolan believes the "violent perpetrator's" can be located and admitted Gardaí were looking into the possibility the criminals fled the country.

Assistant Commissioner O'Mahony described the killers as "ruthless". Cop bosses said that armed patrols will continue throughout Dublin city over the coming days.

O'Mahony said there will be some inquiries on an international basis - including their colleagues in Spain.



SUNDAY WORLD
THE PEOPLE'S PAPER

MY BROTHER THE CHILD SNATCH MONSTER

HIT'S WAR

EXTRACTS FROM FR. BRIAN'S LATES BOOK - SEE PAGE 63

THE QUEEN OF STYLE

MAGAZINE TWO FREE

PLUS AND CATCH THE LEAD

Gangland on brink as Kinahan crew survive hotbed hit at Red Cow Hotel

FEARS FOR 20 ON MOB WAR HITLIST

SPECIAL INVESTIGATION: BY NICOLA TALLANT

THE BYRNE ULTIMATUM

Family flash their cash but are now targets in massive gangland battle

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