



# EVENING Herald

IRELAND'S EVENING NEWSPAPER

THURSDAY  
27 SEPTEMBER 2007

€1.10 CITY FINAL  
VOL 116 NO 231



SIMON  
BEST  
SERIOUSLY  
ILL

SEE SPORT



MICK HOLDEN  
TRUE BLUE HERO  
1954-2007



DAUGHTERS  
WHO LOOK  
LIKE MUM  
SEE PAGE 11



# MAN CHOKES IN

1 of 2



MOD100063165

# SEX GAME KILLING

**LEFT TO DIE:** Manager's body found after days on sofa of his suburban apartment

By Tom Denney and Cathal Rodgers

**DETECTIVES** in Dublin were today looking for a gay killer who left his lover to die in a sex game.

The body of the Cadbury's manager, in his 50s, was discovered tied up on the sofa at his home in the upmarket Merchants' apartment complex on Seaford Road East, Clontarf.

The victim, Piarbhí Ó Sé, apparently died of strangulation. He was dead for a number of days and his killer made no attempt to contact the emergency services.

The deceased was known to have regularly hosted parties for male friends and younger men at the apartment.

Gardai were today trying to contact a number of associates who may have called to the home in the past fortnight. According to locals, he worked as an manager with chocolate manufacturer Cadbury's.

His body was discovered yesterday when a friend of Mr Ó Sé, who had called to the man's house and couldn't get an answer.

He notified gardai and the officers broke down the door of the apartment, assisted by members of the Dublin Fire Brigade. Once inside, they discovered the body, which was partially decomposed on a sofa. The body was covered with a sheet and was tied with rope in a number of knots.

SEE PAGE TWO

## DAY OF THREE KEECAPPED IN CITY ROBBERY PAGE 6

### TEARS FOR HEROES AS BLAZE PROBED



A FIREMAN fights back the tears for his fallen colleagues as gardai today investigated the possibility that welding fumes could have caused the Brady fire disaster. Father of 18 Brian Murray (46) and Mark O'Shaughnessy (25) perished in the blaze. Superintendent Michael Lermont said there was a "very live" investigation into whether welding work to seal the factory's door had sparked the fire.

FULL STORY  
PAGES 4-5

Evening Herald



MOD100063166

↑  
282

# MAN KILLED IN KINKY SEX ACT MURDERED

By DAVID O'TOOLE  
Garda Reporter

A MAN who died during a bizarre sex game was murdered, it emerged yesterday.

A postmortem showed Finbarr Dennehy, 50, was stabbed to death before being left with a ligature around his neck and covered with a sheet.

The body of the 30-year-old, who was homosexual, lay undisturbed at his apartment in Clontarf on Dublin's northside for several days.

It was found on Wednesday afternoon after friends became concerned about his absence.

Garda Inspector Eddie Hyland said: "Postmortem results have shown the deceased died from a single stab wound."

"We would like to hear from people who were in the vicinity of Merchants Apartments from Sunday, September 24, to Wednesday, September 26."

"In particular anybody who may have come in contact with the deceased."

Inspector Hyland added Mr Dennehy was last seen alive some time on Saturday night or Sunday

## Victim, 50, was stabbed

morning. He explained: "Because it is a complex murder inquiry we are keeping a very open mind."

"We have a number of avenues to investigate."

Members of Mr Dennehy's straight family identified his body at the city morgue in Marino. It has

emerged the victim was retired and had lived in Clontarf for the past 10 years. Before that he had lived in London for some time.

The murder probe is being led by Chief Supt Gerry Phillips at Ballyboden Garda station. He has drafted in expert detectives from the National Bureau of Criminal Investigation.

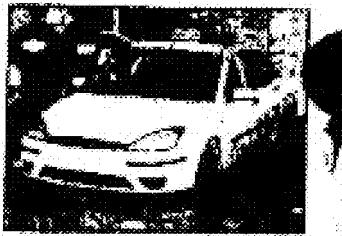
Chief Supt Phillips said: "The Technical Bureau are at the scene and house-to-house inquiries are ongoing."

"We would appreciate it if anybody who was in the area and noticed anything suspicious would contact us. We will keep their contacts confidential."

It is understood that there is no sign of a break-in at Mr Dennehy's home at Seaford Road East.

Units have seized CCTV footage and are interviewing people who may have been in contact with Mr Dennehy before he was killed.

Anybody with information can call the incident room at Clontarf station on 01 866 1860.



PROBE: Scene in Clontarf  
and, right, late發展

# KINKY GAY SEX MAN WAS STABBED

■ By MICHAEL O'TOOLE  
Garda Correspondent

GARDAI hope the gay community will help them catch the killer of a man who was tied up and stabbed to death in his own home.

Officers believe victim Finbarr Dennehy was killed by a man he took back to his plush apartment in Clontarf, north Dublin, for sex.

Mr Dennehy, who was 50, had a plastic bag placed over his head, his hands were tied behind his back and he had a noose around his head — signs of sadomasochistic sexual activity.

Officers initially thought he may have died from suffocative asphyxiation, when men cut off the oxygen



supply to their brain as part of a bizarre sex kick.

But a post-mortem examination, by Deputy State pathologist Dr Michael Curtis, showed he died from a stab wound.

Gardai are expected to interview members of the local gay community to see if anyone can help them catch the killer. "Hopefully, someone will know something that will help us," a source said.

Star 29/9/02  
Saturday.

# KINKY SEX HORROR



■ By MICHAEL O'TOOLE

Crime Correspondent

GARDAI were last night probing whether a man was murdered — or killed accidentally in a kinky sex game. The Star has learned that former Cadbury's chocolate executive Pinturas Dennehy was found naked with a plastic bag over his head, a noose around his neck and his hands tied behind his back.

His body was removed from his Clontarf apartment in north Dublin last night, 21 hours after Mr Dennehy was discovered by a pal.

■ SEE PAGE 6

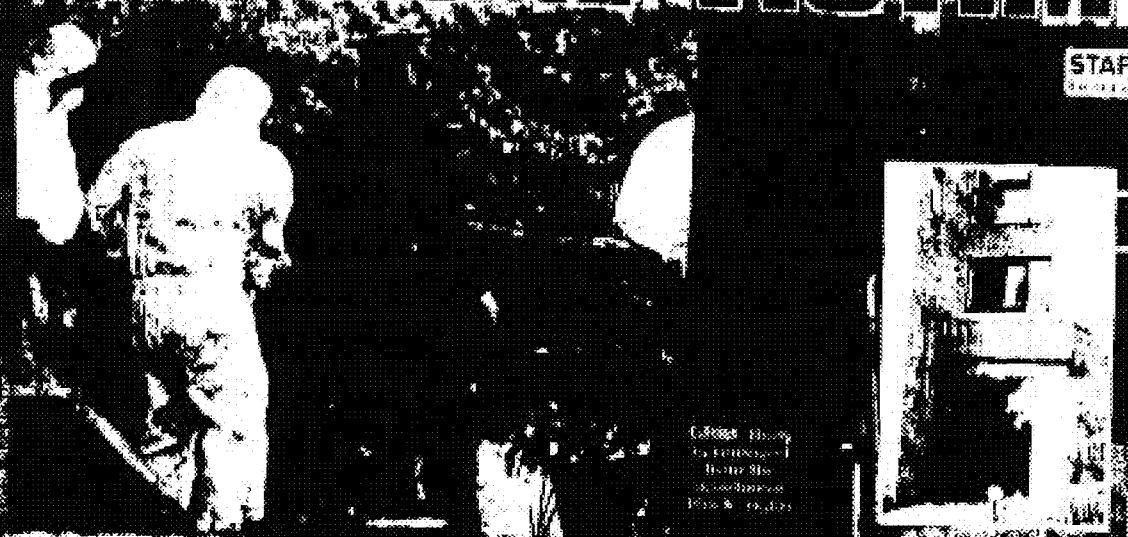
## Murder riddle as naked man is found tied up and choked

Star fri 28/9/07

*Stock Friday 28/9/08*

## Noose tied around neck in autoerotic romp

# MURDER RIDDLE OF SEX GAME VICTIM



藏文大藏经

Digitized by srujanika@gmail.com

GARDAI 1922 DZONI known as GARDAI  
was traced up like a pig in a bladder and parroted  
like a parrot - at GARDAI

The deer have learned their summer  
quarters in the valley, and the  
black bear has found places  
with a plenty of game for his legs, x  
and so he has been out all day.

The same boxwood sprig was used  
between rings which were bound with a leather  
band on top of them.

But there were no changes before it  
had been absorbed and carried before it  
was excreted as a fatty acid and  
gathered into large droplets.

Although the body was trained at the  
beginning to excrete in long, confl-  
uent droplets, it had nothing to do with  
the absorption of the fat.

18  
100. *Arctia caja* (L.)  
18  
100. *Arctia caja* (L.)

Sales were measured as normalized sales minus shipping costs.

But when Bush chose a new — sharp-edged,  
aggressive and aggressive — the moment is past.

one's self off the program as their  
choice. The second was never fully  
realized.

**World's longest Michael Matheson**  
For years I've been trying to get in  
to Michael Matheson's office at 1995 16th  
St., Northwest, Washington, D.C. Every  
time I've stopped by the office, he's  
been extremely busy on campaign. He  
hasn't had time to see me, so I have  
written him a letter.

1996-1997  
SCHOOL YEAR

It is hard to save  
Highway 100. We've got  
to do more to increase

death and never feel right about the process of death.

There may never be a question that the best a state should ever expect from Congress can hardly be bettered after a number of years.

Бюджет на 1992-й и 1993-й финансовые годы  
был также утвержден.

1966-1967  
Year Book

Based by 500000 word lexicon

*St. John's Wort* (see *Milkweed* and *Yellow Star-of-Bethlehem*).

He was a good boy, and he had been  
a good boy all his life.

Another travelled from the University of California to Stanford University in 1968-69, and another from the University of California to the University of Michigan in 1969-70.

**Shock over retired Cadbury's executive stabbed after being trussed up with a noose around his neck in bizarre sex act**

# WHO MURDERED GENTLE FINBARR

**MILD-MANNERED**, gentle and sometimes shy, Finbarr Dennehy was the last person any of his neighbours and friends would have expected to be reading about in the newspapers.

The retired chocolate company executive was best known to his neighbours as the man who took

By Shane Phelan  
Crime Correspondent

great pride in maintaining the flowers in the small garden outside his plush ground-floor apartment.

To friends he was a tennis and ten-pin bowling fanatic, a close confidante and all-round popular guy.

They threw a surprise 38th birthday party for him three weeks ago and over 30 people attended.

None of those present would ever have

imaged the shocking circumstances in which his body would be found in his north Dublin apartment on Wednesday afternoon.

Mr Dennehy, a thin man, standing 5ft 10ins, with receding hair, was discovered lying on his couch, covered by a blanket.

A plastic bag was over his head, a rope tied in a noose around his neck and his hands bound behind his back. Blood from a stab wound had sprayed onto the sofa and floor.

It was the sort of crime scene few of the country's most experienced detectives

had ever encountered before. On the face of it, Mr Dennehy - who came out to friends as gay around four years ago - appeared to have died during a bizarre sexual act.

Officers initially thought he may have accidentally suffocated as a result of auto-erotic asphyxiation, a practice where a person intentionally reduces the amount of oxygen going to the brain to heighten the pleasure of an orgasm.

The sex game has claimed the lives of

**Turn to Page 5**

DAILY MAIL

11TH APRIL

1985

6/6C





# GARDAI IN HUNT FOR KINKY MURDERER

A KINKY sex killer who stabbed a gay man to death in a bondage game was being hunted by cops last night.

Detectives earlier confirmed that Finbar Dennehy, 32, died from a single knife wound. He was

By MICHAEL O'DOYLE

found tied to a ladder with a piano round his neck and a plastic bag over his head.

The body remained undisturbed at his flat in Clontarf, Dublin, for FORM DATES until a friend raised the alarm last Wednesday when he couldn't

contact the former Cadbury executive.

Inspector Eddie Hyland said: "This is now a murder investigation."

"We are anxious to talk to anyone who saw anything suspicious around the Merchant apartments between last Sunday and Wednesday afternoon."

Gardai are examining CCTV

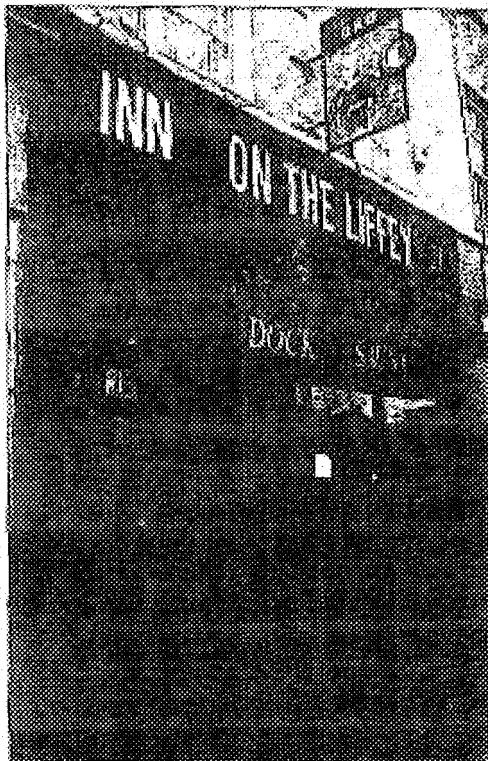
images from the area where Mr Dennehy had lived for 10 years to try to identify the sadistic killer.

Ins. Hyland added: "This is a very complex investigation. Any information given to us will be treated in confidence."

Homoerotic thrill-seekers like Dennehy need dark rooms to generate oxygen to the brain for sexual stimulation.

Page 4

Daily Mail, October 1, 2001



Arrest: Gardai arrested a suspect in the popular gay bar

## Was executive murdered in a robbery that went wrong?

CHOCOLATE company executive Ruben Dennehy may have been murdered by a serial attacker who picked up men in gay bars, slept with them, and then killed them.

Gardai believe the attacker used to lure Mr Dennehy into drug-free bars frequented by young men by lying low or posing as a boy after the assault. The last robbery seen by the Gardai, Mr Dennehy, 32, was snatched to death.

Last night, officers were questioning a 41-year-old man in connection with the murder. Mr Dennehy's hands and feet were shown and tied after the assault.

It is understood that the man was questioned on CCTV seeing his attacker's specimen compact in Dennehy's pockets after the former Cadbury's executive died.

Gardai believe the attacker may

by Shane Franke and Alan Sherry

have picked him up, lied to the victim and left him after having sex with him.

Gardai fear many of these attacks have not reported as the victims may be embarrassed to come forward.

### Finbar 'may have been tortured'

A blood-drenched Mr Dennehy, 32, lying dead on the sofa in his apartment last Wednesday afternoon. He was fully clothed with a comb strapped across his chest, a bag over his head and his hands bound.

It was initially thought he died during a robbery as no traces of satire

were anywhere. However, a post-mortem later determined that the cause of death was a single stab wound.

The suspect was arrested around 8pm on Wednesday at a gay-friendly residence in Dublin city centre.

Gardai searched on the man at 1am on the GPO as Upper GPO and GPO after tracking the use of his mobile phone and recognising him to Michael Gould Station. Some of the staff being detained and held.

It is understood that the man is history because a suspect at one very early stage of the investigation.

Members of the gay community were forced to understand the man after police appealed for information. Sources said the man was spotted leaving a city centre bar with Mr Dennehy last week.

Gardai believe Mr Dennehy was tortured in order to get him to reveal his bank details before being killed.



Dennehy was a victim of his attraction

## Brother in eulogy to shy murder victim Finbar

THE retired Cadbury's executive who was found murdered at his apartment was a "shy and retiring" man who would have hated being forced into the聚光灯, sources at his funeral heard yesterday.

In a warm tribute by his brother Peter at Christ Church, marked with humour, Kevin Dennehy recalled

By Tom Dennehy  
a sporty-mod, funny man who worked hard and loved his family.

He worked his way up through the ranks of Cadbury's.

He managed to retire before he reached 50, something that most of us would like to

do, and he owned a beautiful house.

It is almost two weeks since Finbar, 32, was found dead at his north Dublin apartment.

His body was discovered with a blunt bag over his head and his hands bound with tape. He died from a single stab wound.

Gardai have charged a man

with Finbar's murder, and he appeared in court yesterday charged with assault causing serious harm.

The man was remanded in custody and will appear again on October 20.

Finbar's parish priest Fr Gerard Stather told his friends, his wife Eileen, his two sisters, Irene Franke and Phyllis

Shuttle, and others his kindred spirit. But the violent nature of Finbar's death had convolutional was known.

We are witnessing the destruction of a human life at the zenith of Finbar's integrity, and we can't help but ask the question why?

Why the, why is that man? May without a shred of justification?

Daily Mail

4/10/01

MOD100063173

# GARDAI IN HUNT FOR KINKY MURDERER

A KINKY sex killer who stabbed a gay man to death in a bondage game was being hunted by cops last night.

Detectives earlier confirmed that Finbarr Dennehy, 50, died from a single knife wound. He was

by MICHAEL NOYLE

found tied to a ladder with a noose round his neck and a plastic bag over his head.

The body remained undiscovered at his flat in Clonskeagh, Dublin, for FOUR DAYS until a friend raised the alarm last Wednesday when he couldn't

contact the former Cadbury executive.

Inspector Eddie Hyland said:

"This is now a murder investigation. We are anxious to talk to anyone who saw anything suspicious around the Merchants' apartments between last Saturday and Wednesday afternoon."

Gardai are examining CCTV

footage from the area, where Mr Dennehy had lived for 40 years, to try to identify the sadistic killer.

Inspect Hyland added: "This is a very complex investigation. Any information given to us will be treated in confidence."

Homosexual thrill-seekers tie men up round their necks to restrict oxygen to the brain for sexual stimulation.

29

THE SUN, Monday

# GAY MURDER QUIZ

**'Sex game' a smokescreen**

by MICHAEL NOYLE

A MAN was being questioned by cops last night about the murder of gay executive Finbarr Dennehy.

The suspect was arrested at a flat in Dublin's north inner city at the weekend.

Former Cadbury chief executive Finbarr Dennehy, 50, died last night after a blood-soaked attack at his home.

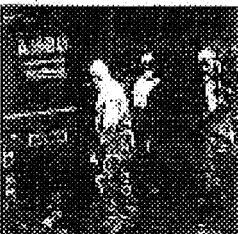
He was found bound to a ladder with a noose round his neck and a plastic bag over his head. A ladder was propped against his bed.

Coroner Michael O'Keeffe said it was a "kinky sex game" which had gone wrong.

It was a ten-year-old secret which had been kept by friends and family. It had been passed down through the generations. The killing had been witnessed directly and the police were investigating.

Dennehy had been seen by many people before his death. He had been invited to a dinner party at the apartment of a friend living in the same building.

The suspect may be a homosexual or bisexual man who has a history of violent behaviour.



Dennehy... body taken from flat

100% Pleasure 21+3/4

© 1987 Expressive Communications

Deny Hyland

# GAY MAN IS KILLED AS SEX ACT GOES WRONG

**Death 'suspicious' as victim found tied up and covered**

A GAY man died after a kinky sex act went wrong, it emerged last night.

Police yesterday received reports of several incidents in Dublin in which men had been killed during sex acts.

In one case, a man was found dead in his bed after a sex act had turned sour. He had been found in a state of extreme shock.

He was found with a sheet covering his body and tied to a chair.

Several features had been removed from his body, including his penis and testicles, and he had been gagged.

At least three policemen

by MICHAEL NOYLE

Michael Dennehy performed a post-mortem last night.

Coroner Michael O'Keeffe said the death of his son was suspicious. Police experts examined the scene.

Neighbors have been questioned by police, while the police are awaiting any further developments.

It is believed he had been used for several days.

A friend called to the apartment on Wednesday morning and became concerned.

Friends arrived and found the dead

man lying in his bedroom.

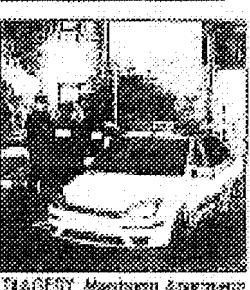
Neighbors in the apartment complex, located near the River Liffey, were shocked by the sight.

One said: "It is a very quiet set of flats. I have never seen any police here. We are told there are about 15 flats."

Neighbors said Dennehy had been

quietly welcomed to the flat.

He had been staying with a friend



Dennehy... flat

MOD100063174





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2

## Our New Books

# **MAN ARRESTED OVER KINKY SEX KILLING**



GARDAI were last night questioning a man over the murder at Bragge's factory Cadbury's base Ballymun Road.

It was reported to a  
committee looking into  
the matter that the  
expressions were received  
from men who had

**RECORD**

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diseases after the Argyrope-  
lla had passed away, with a  
certain amount left which  
had increased beyond his  
reck and a day over his  
well. He died of a stroke  
passed in the stomach.

## **HOMOSEXUAL COMMUNITY HELP GARDAI WITH CASE**

DISTANT word comes to appeal for our sympathy concerning a family in especially distressing case. We also hear that the family is still unable to secure sufficient money apparently due from insurance companies, asking immediate aid from those whom she may depend.

The above was made by Inspector Parker. Many of the local Commodity Inspectors have reported that several instances of the same company have failed to render in full payment with their customers.

Independent 23 September 2007



By JACK NELSON

DETROIT — An underworld source's gay confidante told police last week he was involved in the killing of his partner, a 25-year-old gay man who had been shot to death Saturday night.

The 35-year-old man

was found with a bullet in his head, and police said he was shot at close range.

Police said the victim

had been shot in the head

at about 11:30 p.m.

He was found in a

dark room in a

vacant house on

Southgate Street in

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Independent

1/10/02

# Suspect used stab victim's credit card

**Alan O'Keeffe  
and Tom Brady**

THE man being questioned about the murder of retired executive Finbar Dennehy was tracked down by gardai after he used the dead man's credit card to check into a bed & breakfast.

The 41-year-old suspect was arrested by gardai at a guesthouse on Saturday night.

Garda sources last night revealed they were alerted to his location after the victim's credit card was used at the B&B in Dublin's city centre.

Detectives took the man to Clontarf Garda Station shortly after 8pm on Saturday, where they began to question him about the death of Mr Dennehy. The man's period of detention was extended at 10am yesterday as the investigation into the killing entered its fourth day.

Investigating officers last night extended his period of detention.

Gardai said post-mortem results revealed that Mr Dennehy's death was caused by a single stab wound.

Detectives believe the 50-year-old victim was killed last Monday - two days before his body was found in his apartment in the Merchants complex at the corner of Seaford Road and Vernon Avenue in Clontarf.

He was discovered tied up with rope, lying on a sofa with a black bag placed over his head and a sheet thrown across it.

It was initially believed he may have been strangled with rope.

However, a post-mortem examination by Deputy State



Garda at the scene in Clontarf where the body was found

Pathologist Dr Michael Curtis revealed that the stab wound was the cause of death.

There were no signs of a break-in at the apartment which led gardai to suspect Mr Dennehy may have known his killer.

Mr Dennehy was single and lived alone at the apartment. He had recently retired from an executive position at chocolate manufacturer Cadbury's.

Work colleagues and friends described him as a shy, loyal and generous person who could be very witty and who did not wear being gay like a badge on his sleeve.

Mr Dennehy was born in England. He was brought to Ireland by his parents, who are originally from Cork, but returned to Ireland with their children to live in Dublin when he was 13.

# 'Gay sex game' ends in death

By DAMIEN LANE,  
Crime Editor, and  
MICHAEL DOYLE

A GAY man was found dead tied to a ladder with a plastic bag over his head and a noose round his neck at a north Dublin flat.

Retired chocolate company executive Pintarr Demenshy, in his 50s, may have died when a sex game with another man went wrong.

Last night a general investigation into the bizarre death was poised to become a murder hunt.

As detectives awaited the results of a post-mortem, they were not ruling out that Mr Demenshy had been STRANDED.

He may also have been STARRED before his body was covered with a bedsheet at the flat on the south Merchants estate in Clontarf.

But cops have not ruled out that Mr Demenshy died in a kinky accident like INXS rocker Michael Hutchence who suffered autoerotic asphyxiation - intentionally reducing oxygen to the brain for sexual stimulation.

A woman neighbour described Mr Demenshy, who took redundancy from Cadbury's 18 months ago, as "a lovely but lonely man". But she added: "He received lots of young men.

Continued on Page 7

*Seen paper*

1/10/07



Horror... body removed

# NOOSE DEATH

Continued from Page One  
and sometimes young women into his apartment. They visited all the time."

Tall and thin Mr Demenshy was said by other neighbours to be quiet and reserved, rarely talking to other residents.

His body was discovered last Wednesday after a friend alerted gardai when he could not contact the former exec.

Cops arrived with firemen who broke down the door to Mr Demenshy's flat.

A neighbour said: "His friend, who raised the alarm, was outside with tears in his eyes. He saw white as a ghost when he came out."

## Shocked

"It's a total shock. No one can believe that he is dead."

Detectives are trying to piece together Mr Demenshy's movements in the last few weeks.

They are trying to trace friends in the gay community.

His body was moved to the city morgue last night for a post-mortem.

Gardai are expected to launch a murder inquiry when the results are known.

Forensic officers examining the flat yesterday.

DNA and fibre evidence will be crucial to the investigation.

Sources confirmed last night that there were no foreign objects such as tools involved.

# Gardaí turn to gay websites to help solve hate crimes

Gardaí are increasingly turning to the internet to help solve serious crimes involving members of the gay community.

Gay rights officers have been placing ads on the web with descriptions and URLs to websites, including *Gay.ie*, *Irish Daily Star* and *Freight*.

Another force has been using the website *it's an effort*. In recent weeks members of the force have communicated via email to web users from a series targeting the message that the gardai need more officers.

Officers high profile cases where information was sought from people based on their sexual orientation included the fatal slaying of retired Gardaí officer Robert Fagan by two men who died in the south Dublin apartment last month.

Agencies have also been made available on a number of gay websites.

**By Siânne Phelan**  
Ireland Correspondent

homophobic attack that has been the latest to hit Dublin city centre.

In all cases, web users can now easily click to contact the specifically targeted police unit online with any information they may have, added Mac Manus, adding the website had been created.

The initiative is being spearheaded by the Gardaí Criminal Intelligence Unit which works with other forces across the country.

A Garda source said: "There's a growing realisation of the need for us to be more accessible to the gay community. It's the approach we have adopted."

The initiative has also been used in a number of recent cases where targets are members of the gay community of Dublin.

The most recent a positive result came in a recent case

where Gardaí traced a man who had reportedly been threatening a gay couple in the north inner city.

Another positive from an undercover operation last month saw the arrest of Edward Blaney, 21, after he was caught in a gay bar.

The operation, carried out by Gardaí from the Dublin South East Garda Station, involved a number of officers from the department.

In the latest case where an arrest was made, the team of Stephen Flanagan, the detective who had directed the task of a Gay Safe Officer, or advice on gay life to combat incidents of the community.

This officer later posted an appeal online on a gay website.

Gardai sources said that the community was relieved from the gay community as a result.

A man appears at court on Monday charged with serious assault in connection with his victim's health.

Portuguese, Spanish, Nigerian and Moroccan men were last night picked up following what the Gardaí said was a series of attacks.

Another man, Mark O'Reilly, 35, of Castleknock, Dublin, was also picked up last night. Mr O'Reilly was last night released on bail after sex-hunting-related incidents in two different restaurants were reported and he was believed that arrests were still to come.

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## Victims picked up in gay bars

## Dublin is top city for seeking sex online

ROTTERDAM TAKES THE TOP IN THE NIGHTS - Most people are keeping on to the internet and social media sites, a new study has revealed.

It appears no longer is it being the going to bed, with figures showing the pool of the most popular city for people seeking sex online.

Rotterdam takes the lead, followed by London, Paris, Berlin and New York.

**By Isha Chandy**

According to the findings of the 2011 survey, nearly 40% of the 100,000 people who took part in a survey claimed.

The figures, compiled by the sexual health charity Sex Education Foundation, show that visitors to the website have been more active than ever before, with the number of visitors on the site reaching 500,000, according to the findings.

Sexual health charity Sex Education Foundation, which runs the website, said it was

surprised by the increase in the number of visitors to the website, adding that sexual health issues are often seen as a taboo subject.

Additional research found people have a variety of sexual experiences online.

It is reported that a large majority of people use the website to find sexual partners and sexually satisfied

other than their own in the rest of the city and they were too busy to pursue a relationship but they still want to have sex.

Source reported that the situation and the amount of the internet was an important factor as they were spending an average of 10 hours online.

A spokesman for the charity said the survey gave a "fascinating insight into the sexual behaviour of people in Ireland".

*Great Deny much 3/10/13*

## Was it murder or a bizarre sex act?

By Alan Sherry  
and Sharon Phelan

QATARIS were last night investigating whether man found with his hands bound and a bag over his head was murdered or died during a bizarre sexual act.

The man, named locally as Robert Kennedy, was found by a concerned friend in his apartment in Cheltenham, north London, after he had not been heard from for several days.

Mr Kennedy, who was in his 30s and a former employee of Starbucks, was discovered on a path in the ground-floor apartment with a noose around his neck, a bag over his head and his hands bound behind his back.

Officers suspect that Mr Kennedy died from suffocation. It is also understood that blood found in the apartment may have been the result of a knife wound to his leg.

Police were last night investigating a number of theories, including the possibility of died accidentally as a result of auto-erotic asphyxiation, which is the practice of intentionally restricting the amount of oxygen going to the brain during sex in order to heighten the pleasure created during an orgasm.

A post-mortem was being conducted late last night by Deputy State Pathologist Dr Michael Curtis of the Dublin City Morgue in Dublin. Officers said that the results of the examination would determine whether further probes will be conducted.

whether the cause of Mr Kennedy's death is a suicide or intentional, genital torture another person has involved. A Dublin source said there was no sign of forced entry to his flat and he was known to indulge freely with other men throughout his life.

It was felt that he could have been dead for some time before he was discovered.

Detectors also think the person who was with him on the night he died may have planned to move the body, possibly in the dead man's car.

Mr Kennedy's car was moved closer to the door of his apartment and blankets and sheets had been laid out in the back of it, as if in readiness to wrap around his body.

Mr Kennedy's body was found at 2.30am on Wednesday in the Morning Star Hotel in Cheltenham, a hotel that was a popular with a key to the apartment could unlock other rooms to reach him by people.

The hotel management called police, who seized all the rooms and conducted a full forensic examination before removing the body.

Kennedy, who lived on his own, was known to have parties occasionally and would regularly be visited by friends at his apartment.

Daily Mail  
21.6.07

Dedicated 2/10/83

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## Drifter is charged after gay death

By Steve Phelan

An unemployed drifter was yesterday charged with assault causing serious harm to former Showboat Company executive Michael Kennedy.

Mr Kennedy, 31, who was gay, died as a result of a single shot wound. His fully clothed body was found last Wednesday in his apartment in the exclusive Marquette apartment complex in Clontarf.

A rope was around his neck, a plastic bag was over his head and his hands were bound behind his back. It is thought he had been dead for a few days.

Michael Downes, 45, of an Island estate, but formerly of Meath Avenue, Ennis, Co. Clare, appeared before Dublin District Court yesterday. Sgt Paul Stalton said he made an arrest when the charges were put to him.

Judge William Early was told by a solicitor representing Downes that there would be no application for bail, and he remanded Mr Kennedy to appear at Dún Laoghaire District Court Monday.

Downes, a thin man standing 5ft 8in, with dark wavy hair, did not speak during yesterday's brief hearing. Wearing an 18-month-old grey tracksuit and brown slippers, he sat hunched over on a bench directly in front of the judge.

Several members of the Garda Investigation Bureau, including officers from Clontarf Garda Station and from the National Bureau of

### He had a large circle of friends

Fascist investigation, were in court for the hearing.

It is understood that no members of Mr Kennedy's family, or any relatives of the accused, were present.

Mr Kennedy had retired from his job as a purchasing manager at Sodberry's in Clontarf four years ago, after three decades with the company. His death came just three weeks after friends threw a surprise 50th birthday party for him.

A close pal described him as a well-mannered and gentle man. He had only come out as being gay around the time he left Sodberry's, and had been active in the capital's gay bar and club scene.

He had lived in a ground-floor apartment at the grand Marquette apartments for 10 years.

Investigators said he was very proud of the flowers he maintained in the small garden outside his patio. He had a large circle of friends.

# Man arrested over grotesque killing

A MAN was arrested last night by gardai investigating the death of Dublin homosexual Finbarr Dennehy, who was killed in a grotesque attack that has sickened even hardened detectives.

The man was taken into custody shortly before 8pm last night and was being questioned in Clontarf Garda station, where he can be held for 24 hours without charge.

He is believed to be in his 40s and from the country and was arrested at a city centre B&B.

Mr Dennehy, a 50-year-old retired Cadbury's purchasing manager, was found

By Valerie Hanley

dead at his home in the north Dublin suburb of Clontarf last Wednesday.

He was lying on a blood-soaked sofa in his apartment with a plastic bag over his head and a rope tied in a noose around his neck. A ladder was found close by and, with the murder victim's hands bound behind his back, gardai at first suspected that Mr Dennehy was the unsuspecting victim of a sex game that went wrong.

However, a postmortem indicated he died from a stab wound. One of the lines of

inquiry being pursued by gardai is that his killer may have staged the sex scene in order to cover his tracks.

Mr Dennehy, a thin man standing 5ft 10in tall, with receding hair, lived alone at the upmarket Merchants apartment complex in Clontarf.

He had a wide circle of friends who have described him as a gentle soul with a great sense of humour.

He retired from his job at Cadbury's a year ago and had recently come out and spoken openly to friends about his homosexuality.

## WHERE TO FIND...

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*First mail on Sunday* 20/9/02

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## SEX LINK THEORY

GARDAI believe murder victim Finbarr Dennehy spent the night with the man who stabbed him.

The 50-year-old gay man was found in his Dublin apartment with a noose around his neck, a plastic bag on his head and his hands tied behind his back.

But there was no sign of forced entry at the retired Cadbury's executive's home in Clontarf.

This led to detectives to the theory that a lover stayed overnight at the flat before killing his victim during a kinky sex session.

A 42-year-old man was arrested and being questioned last night about the killing.

## FIGHT FOR LIFE

A PYTHISTRIAN was fighting for her life in hospital last night after being hit by a car early yesterday in Killaloe, Co Clare.

*Sunday Mail* 20/9/02

*3rd August 1988* 10/88

## Man charged over stabbing death



Michael Doherty, 26, arrested in connection with the stabbing death of Peter Dennehy in Cavan.

### Coroners Gallagher

A 26-YEAR-OLD man has appeared in court charged in connection with the death of retired engineer Peter Dennehy in Cavan last week.

Michael Doherty, of the first floor above his shop in Main Street, Co Cavan, appeared before Justice Dublin District Court yesterday charged with assault causing serious harm to the retired Cavan engineer.

Mr Dennehy, who was 79, died yesterday morning from injuries received on 31 July, just over three days earlier.

During the inquest hearing, the court heard that he had been admitted periodically between 1981 and August 1987 into Cavan General Hospital, and charged a doctor later last year.

Garda Paul McNamee said that apart from those two admissions, no other charges were brought.

The court also heard that Mr Dennehy had suffered from angina pectoris in recent years but a long time.

He was seen on 28 July with chest pains again and a doctor advised him to go to hospital.

He was taken to Cavan General Hospital and held for one overnight period on 31 July, during which time he died.

Examination of his body for another 12 hours.

Mr Dennehy's body was discovered in his apartment on Seabfield Road last Wednesday. The 79-year-old had been tied up with rope and had a heart bag over his head.

It is believed his body had been transported there by Brian O'Halloran, a criminal investigator, where a post-mortem examination revealed the cause of death a single stab wound.

George Singh, O'Halloran's solicitor, told Dennehy in the body to appear before Cavan Circuit Court on 1 September.