

EXCLUSIVE WE UNCOVER NEW €1m HOME IN 'HOLY'



MISSING: Bernie Gavan
Please help me find my poor sister

By KEITH FALKINER

A DISTRAUGHT woman has made an impassioned appeal for help in tracing his missing mother. Heartbroken Ann O'Hanlon said she hoped some new information could come forward in relation to her missing sister Bernie Gavan, who has not been seen since the day of a big GAA game in Dublin last August. To add to Ann's misery, this week marked the ninth anniversary of the death of Bernie's son Michael, who tragically committed suicide at the age of 19.

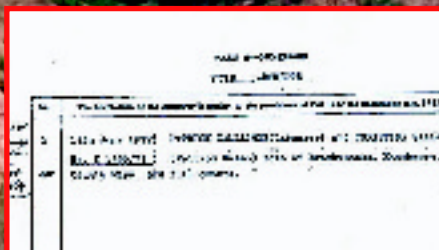
Appeal

Bernie (59), who suffers from bi-polar disorder and had been a patient at Daneswood House, Glasnevin, was last seen on Broombridge Road, Cabra, on Sunday, August 19 just after 2.30pm, on the day of the Cork v Meath All-Ireland football semi-final at Croke Park. Bernie Gavan is described as being five foot tall with blond hair and glasses. She was last seen wearing a pink jacket, pink top, pink shoes and black pants. Anyone with any information in relation to her should contact gardai at Whitehall on 6664500. If you would like to help fundraise for the Missing in Ireland Support Service to get its helpline back into operation, you can log on to the website www.miss.ie.

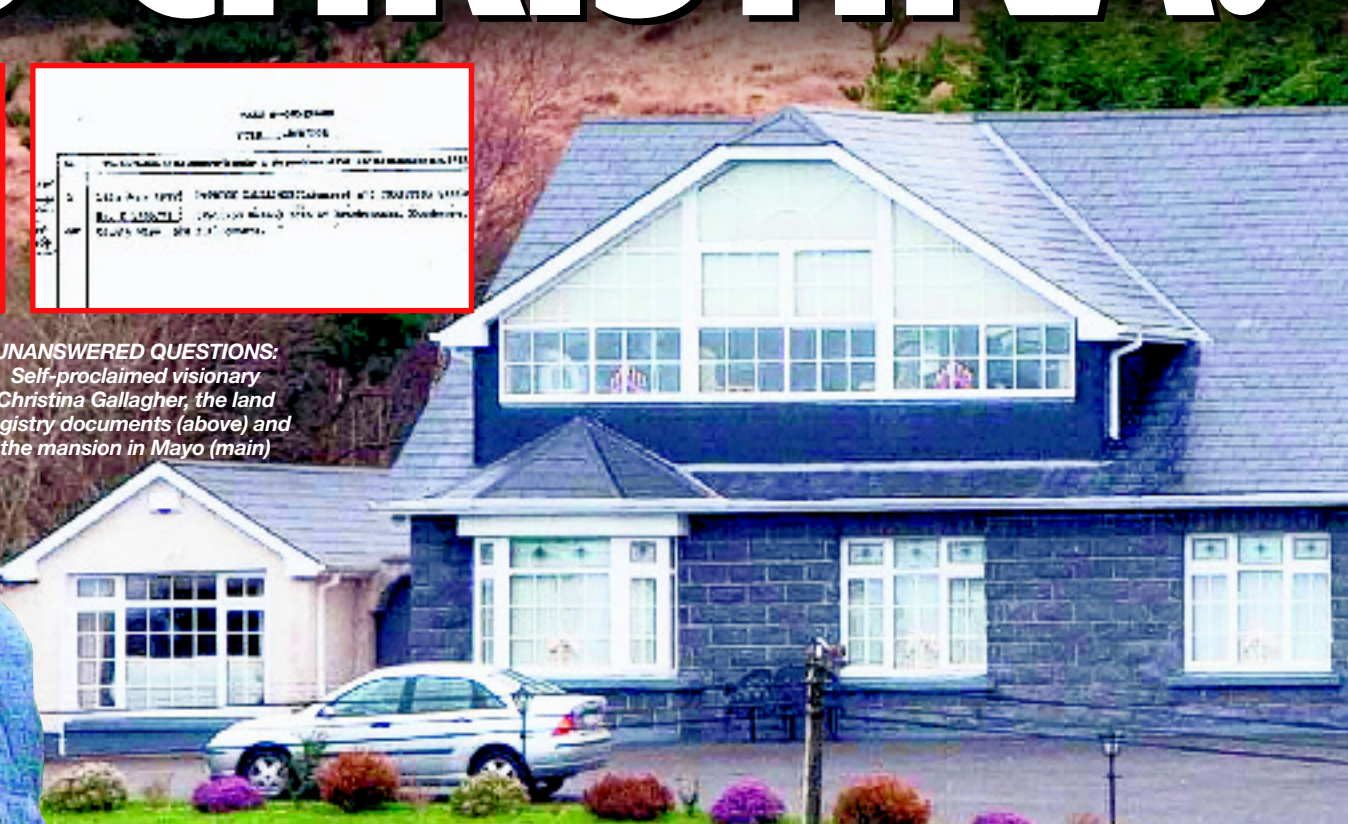
FUNDAY WORLD
 SPONGEBOB has been blamed for a power blackout that left 4,000 people in the dark. It happened in Massachusetts, where a balloon featuring Spongebob snagged on power cables.

IRISH BOOK TO BE MOVIE
 IRISH author Christina McKenna has had her first novel snapped up for a film by Jeremy Irons. Despite 26 knockbacks, Christina's luck changed when New York agent Bill Contardi loved her tale, *The Misremembered Man*. The book will now be made into a film.

HOUSE ABOUT THIS CHRISTINA?



UNANSWERED QUESTIONS: Self-proclaimed visionary Christina Gallagher, the land registry documents (above) and the mansion in Mayo (main)



THIS is another stunning mansion owned by "holy" woman Christina Gallagher – a €1 million home which puts the lie to her claim that she owns no property.

By JIM GALLAGHER

The self-proclaimed visionary and founder of the controversial House of Prayer in Achill is listed on the land registry as the sole owner of the luxury house outside Newport, Co Mayo.

She is also listed on the same government record as joint owner of a plush house in Knockmore, near Foxford, where her husband Paddy lives. These are on top of the €1 million mansion outside Ballina which she bought two years ago and where her daughter Mary lives.

And then there is the €4 million mansion on an exclusive estate in Malahide where she lives but which is registered to one of her key money men.

Gallagher's spiritual director, Fr Gerard McGinnity, went live on radio last month to claim his mentor owned no properties and that our accusations of her luxurious lifestyle were scandalous.

The *Sunday World* has carried a series of articles calling on Gallagher, who does not work, to explain her huge wealth and to reveal what happened to the millions of euro donated to her House of Prayer from ordinary people all over the country.

Today, we reveal the amazing history of the palatial stone home outside Newport which Gallagher has owned for 10 years.

And we unveil the astonishing luxuries she has packed into its rooms including a massive four-poster bed she had specially imported from top people's store Harrods in London.

She says she owns no property...we prove

Gallagher is believed to have paid more than £100,000 (€127,000) for what was then a humble single-storey building back in 1998.

Over the years she spent a fortune doing the place up, adding another floor, a summer house and a conservatory. A large stone wall hides the house from passing motorists while our picture – taken from a hill opposite – shows a security camera aimed straight at the main gate, not a usual requisite for most visionaries.

Shrine

Gallagher tried to sell the property in the 1990s to would-be British buyers but couldn't find a purchaser.

Then, two years ago, she came up with the ingenious idea of selling the home to her own supporters as a 'shrine' to herself, claiming it was too expensive and that she couldn't afford it.

The Blue Ivory Trust was set up specifically for the purpose of raising funds to buy the home.

Hundreds, possibly thousands, of people all over the country donated money to the fund and estimates of what was raised varied between €600,000 and €1 million.

Supporters were told the trust had bought the house and a plaque was put on the front wall saying 'Blue Ivory Trust'.

But the *Sunday World* can reveal today the Blue Ivory Trust does not own the house. In fact, the Blue Ivory Trust is not registered as owning any property in Mayo whatsoever.

Further enquiries by the *Sunday World* failed to come up with any record of the trust as a charity or a business.

Land registry records show that Gallagher is the only owner. The house was originally listed in her name and that of her daughter, Mary Gorman, from 1998.

They were listed as "full owners".

However, in September 2004, the

register was changed and Gallagher became the sole

owner. Around this time, she told her devotees that she had bought another house for her daughter.

One former Gallagher follower who contributed to the Blue Ivory fund said last night: "This is simply unbelievable. I didn't have a lot of money but I gave thousands of euro because Christina said she could not afford to live there."

"If it can be proved that she took this money while keeping the house, she should be prosecuted for fraud. The only people who use that house are Christina

and her family."

The *Sunday World* has uncovered the astonishing secrets of this luxurious home where Gallagher lives like a Hollywood star when in Mayo.

The fittings include a four-poster bed in Gallagher's massive bedroom bought from Harrods, the plush shop where Princess Diana used to shop.

There are four luxury bedrooms on the ground floor alone and every one has an ensuite bathroom and TV.

A living room and dining room have marble fireplaces and are packed with expensive crystal and antiques. Chandeliers costing thousands of euro hang from the ceilings.

There is a massive kitchen, a conservatory, an extensive garden with a waterfall on the back wall, a pond with tropical fish and palm trees. Steps in the garden lead to a summer house.

Luxury

One visitor told us: "Upstairs there are just two bedrooms covering the same space as the ground floor but are just massive. One of them is Christina's."

"The bed in her room would not even fit in a normal size room. She bought it from Harrods along with matching side tables."

"There is a walk-in wardrobe and you have never seen so many clothes. She keeps jewellery worth thousands of euro in her room."

"The ensuite bathrooms of these two bedrooms both have jacuzzis. There is a pull-down seat in one of the showers which becomes your own private steam room."

"The house is the ultimate in luxury."

