

Race is on to save 18th century villa

CAB breached my human rights, says John Gilligan

By Paul Kelly

JAILED gangster John Gilligan and his wife claim their human rights have been breached by CAB's efforts to take away the proceeds of his crimes.

Gilligan, 59, is fighting to keep a €17million property empire - including his beloved Jessbrook Equestrian Centre in Kildare.

Yesterday barristers for Gilligan and his estranged wife, Geraldine, argued that the laws used by the Criminal Assets Bureau breached the European Convention on Human Rights.

Mrs Gilligan drafted in top British human rights lawyer, John Hardy QC, to argue her case.

He said sections of the Proceeds of Crime Act 1996 that were used to confiscate assets had breached her rights.

Previously, the High Court was told the act allowed the State to confiscate assets as a result of wrongdoing that took place before the law came into force.

But Mr Hardy QC said the act was a breach of human rights laws preventing Irish citizens from being penalised 'retrospectively'.

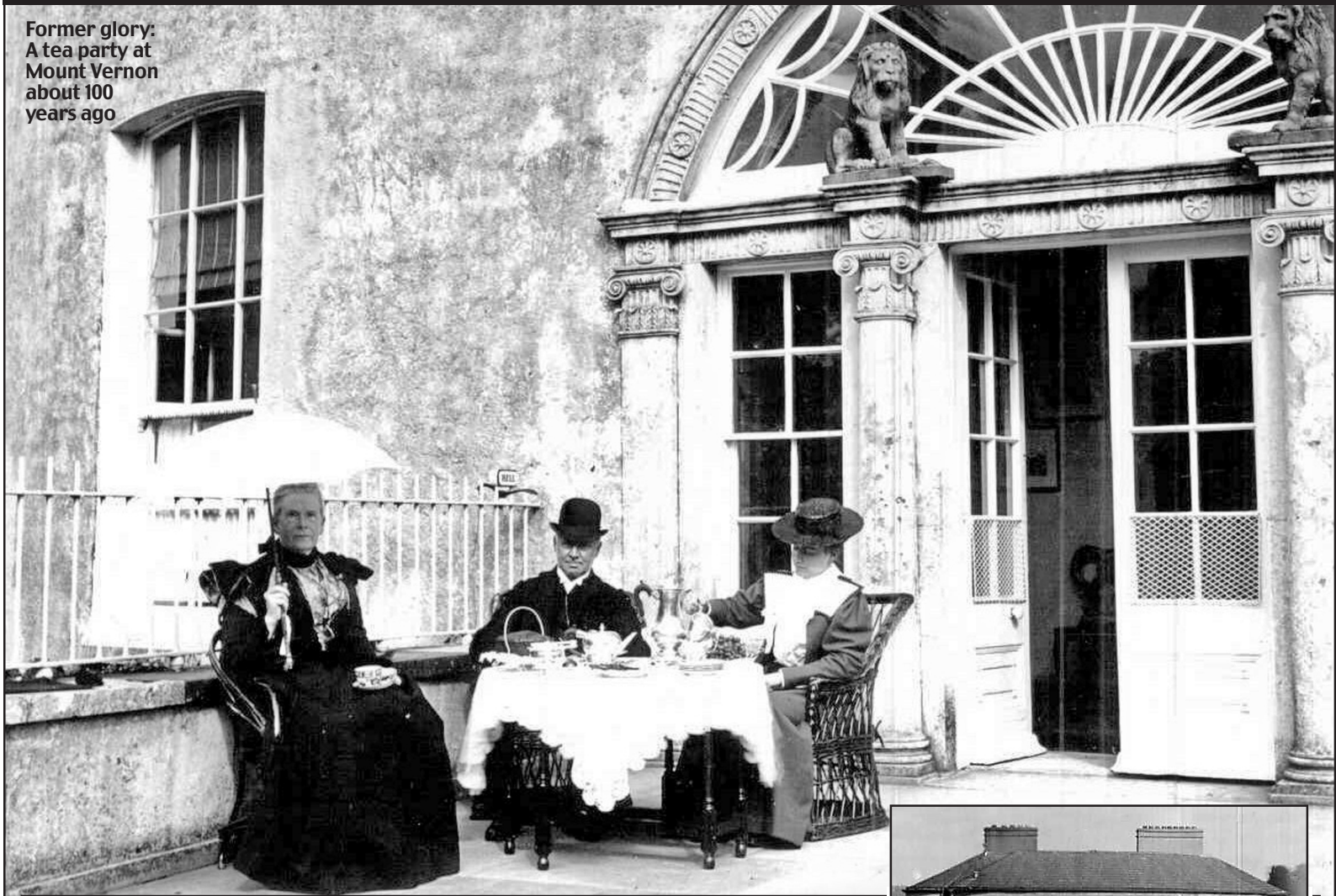
John Peart SC, for Gilligan, also argued the laws on confiscation of assets were only made clear in 2008. This was 11 years after CAB got an order to confiscate his assets, the court heard.

In January, Gilligan - who was linked to the 1996 murder of crime journalist Veronica Guerin - lost a High Court attempt to overturn the CAB order in which Jessbrook, other sites and the original family home in Blanchardstown, Dublin, were seized.

Mr Justice Kevin Feeney is to make a final ruling on the assets once he has dealt with legal arguments made yesterday.

Yesterday, the judge also threatened to withdraw legal aid payments from the legal teams of both Gilligan and his wife over delays in filing papers.

Counsel for both sides argued against the threat, saying their colleagues had acted swiftly and worked to reduce the time the case was taking. The case continues.



Former glory: A tea party at Mount Vernon about 100 years ago

A CAMPAIGN has been launched to save a dilapidated Georgian villa recognised by the World Monuments Fund as one of the most endangered sites in the world.

Vernon Mount in Douglas, Cork, is owned by a U.S. management company. But since planning permission for a hotel was refused in 1997, it has been left to go to ruin.

The neoclassical mansion was built for local merchant Sir Henry Browne Hayes in

By Olivia Kelleher

the early 1790s. It is understood to have been designed by Abraham Hargrave and paintings by 19th-century Cork artist Nathaniel Grogan remain on the walls and ceilings.

A meeting, organised by the Grange Frankfield Partnership, was held on Monday in a bid to save the site.

Group spokesman Ger Lehane said a breakthrough was made after a representative for the management company

agreed to allow members into the property. He says the onus is on local councillors and representatives to act immediately to save the site.

Mr Lehane said: 'A number of politicians were in attendance last night. They have given us their commitment that immediate action must be taken.'

Vernon Mount was listed among the top 100 endangered sites on the 2008 World Monuments Watch. Locals say it has the potential to be a major heritage site.



Full house: The villa before it fell to ruin

Busáras is out, Luas is in! Monopoly gets a makeover

By Sandra Mallon
Correspondent

PRICE hikes, no ready cash and card payments — monopoly has had a radical makeover to reflect Dublin right now.

The new version of the game, which began retailing here in the Seventies, has ditched the cash for plastic in a revamp that sees out-of-town shopping centres, theatres and public transport added to the board.

Instead of swapping colourful Monopoly notes, players store their earnings on a debit card which can be swiped on a battery-powered unit to pay rent or to trade properties.

Dundrum Town Centre and the Convention Centre in Dublin are making their first appearance on the board, while Crumlin and Kimmage have been replaced by Rathfarnham and Raheny as the 'brown' properties.

Other additions include Croke Park, the Gaiety Theatre, the Luas and the IFSC.

Shannon Airport, previously the

PROPERTY MARKET GETS A WELCOME BOOST

OLD BOARD PROPERTIES	VALUE	IRISH EDITION PROPERTIES	VALUE	OLD BOARD PROPERTIES	VALUE	IRISH EDITION PROPERTIES	VALUE
Ailesbury Road	€350k	Ailesbury Road	€3.5m	Westmoreland Street	€200k	The Abbey Thetare	€2m
Shrewsbury Road	€400k	Shrewsbury Road	€4m	Dawson Street	€140k	The Spire	€1.4m
George's Street	€300k	Henry Street	€3m	Kildare Street	€140k	Phoenix Park	€1.4m
Wicklow Street	€300k	O'Connell Street	€3m	Nassau Street	€160k	IFSC	€1.6m
Grafton Street	€320k	Grafton Street	€3.2m	Rathgar Road	€100k	Rathmines Road	€1m
Talbot Street	€260k	Jervis Street S.C.	€2.6m	Crumlin	€60k	Rathfarnham	€600k
North Earl Street	€260k	Liffey Valley S.C.	€2.6m	Kimmage	€60k	Raheny	€600k
O'Connell Street	€280k	Dundrum S.C.	€2.8m	■ UTILITIES			
Abbey Street	€220k	Croke Park	€2.2m	Busáras Dublin	€200k	The Luas	€2m
Capel Street	€220k	The Convention Centre, Dublin	€2.2m	Dublin Airport	€200k	Dublin Airport	€2m
Henry Street	€240k	St Stephens Green	€2.4m	Heuston Station	€200k	Dublin Bus	€2m
Pearse Street	€180k	The Gaiety Theatre	€1.8m	Shannon Airport	€200k	The Dart	€2m
Dame Street	€180k	The Olympia Theatre	€1.8m				

only non-Dublin property featured, has been dropped in favour of the Dart.

Ordinance Survey Ireland also plays a role in the new version by revealing the 'go' spot could be occupied by the RDS in Dublin.

Martin Creaton, of Ordinance Sur-

vey Ireland, said the agency wanted to help the game's manufacturers, Hasbro, pick a site that was 'iconic to the game'.

Another change to the Irish monopoly game is infla-

tion. Instead of values in tens and hundreds, the prices range from hundreds to thousands and even millions.

Anne Dermody, of Hasbro Ireland in Waterford, said

the modern edition is aimed at bringing the game more 'in line with current times'.

She said: 'The values of the properties have to be relative on the board.'

'We do try to make some attempt to make them accurate, but we did feel that millions - even with today's property price falls - were relevant for now.'

Mrs Dermody added that shopping

'Icons that people will see in the city'

centres have become an integral part of the capital and should make an appearance on the board, as should Croke Park and the Phoenix Park.

'We can't put everything on it, but we try as best we can to pick the locations and icons that people will see as they go through the city,' she said.

The game, which was invented more than 70 years ago, is available €26.99.

sandra.mallon@dailyemail.ie

