

GREAT IRISH YARNS IN BLACKROCK

One Dublin menswear retailer proud to be selling Irish this winter is Alan Kelly of Gentlemen Please in Blackrock, Co Dublin. He will be stocking the homemade knitwear of Louth-based designer Edmund McNulty. Made in luxurious yarns, such as merino and alpaca blends, and in conventional shades such as charcoal, black, grey and navy, the knits are modern in spirit with particular attention to detail and finish. "The quality is amazing," says Kelly. "They are some of the nicest pieces I've seen in a long time. We do a lot of Italian knitwear, and I think he is up there with the best." What sets them apart, in Kelly's opinion, is the good fit, and the well-judged length and width that makes them flattering on the hip. This season McNulty has also included a hoodie in his collection, which Kelly reckons looks great with jeans and a jacket. He suggests a white T-shirt or fitted shirt under the sweaters or cardigans. Prices from €195 up to €240 reflect the quality.

www.edmundmcnulty.com,
www.gentlemenplease.ie



ROONEY'S ABBEY REVIVAL

If you go down to the peninsula tonight, you'd better not go alone. Take a few mates and have a peek at the comedians gathered in Howth for the Abbey Tavern's first House of Fun comedy night, presided over by Joe Rooney (pictured), known to most of us as barfly Timmy in *Killinascully* and dangerous Father Damo in *Father Ted*. Also in tonight's line-up at the Abbey's revived performance venue, the Stage, are "hobbit child" Colum McDonnell, Shazwanda and Willa White. The tavern, which has a venerable music history, is now planning regular music gigs at the Stage to go with its comedy nights, and there will be a theatre element, too. Tickets for tonight's show, which starts at 10pm and continues (with late bar and music) until 2am, are €15 euro from the Abbey bar or the Stage box office (01-8322006).

PATRIC LOVES FABRIC

Fans of Patric Hollington, whose eponymous shop on the Rue Racine in Paris attracts a star-studded artistic and political clientele, will welcome his new catalogue and the fact that his clothes are now available online. His latest collection celebrates the "good folk" who produce the lovely fabrics for which he is famous, fashioned into his popular Nehru-style jackets and patch-pocket waistcoats. Suppliers include Stefano in Tuscany, "a laconic master-weaver", who produces the deep blue-black wool and cotton chenille, and others between Turin and Como specialising in soft wool flannels. The winter collection also includes whiskey-coloured Donegal tweeds, and hand-woven silks that seem like tweeds as designed by a Scotsman living in southwest France. Hollington's signature carpenter and Balzar jackets also reappear in flannel, double-face moleskin and oiled cottons. The collection also offers colourful socks, ties, braces, hats and sweaters. www.hollington.fr



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Cycling The launch of Dublin Bikes (www.dublinbikes.ie) has us all in a tizzy – but first things first: GET A HELMET!

Designer collaborations

Christopher Kane hit Topshop yesterday, and coming up is Jimmy Choo for H&M, Rodarte for Target (US only) and Pierre Hardy for Gap.

Senior style

Interested in street-style photographers?

Check out www.granpararazzi.com for shots of fashionable pensioners keeping up sartorial appearances.

Brogues The cool way to smarten up your denims – try Topman's battered cream leather pair for a light take on gentlemanly.

Kim Clijsters Winning the US Open when her baby Jada is 18 months old. Now that's what we call getting back to the office.



Lynx For 12 year-old boys only. Honestly.

Slogan T-shirts Doesn't it seem a little ridiculous that we're still talking about this? And no, it doesn't matter that it's "like, really funny". Trust us, it's, like, really not.

Gaming Think your tactical genius is going to get the girl? Think again, then try cracking a joke or complimenting her hair. Simple but effective.

Spotify.com At least the free version – we Irish will have to pay for the service for the foreseeable future.

Rosemary Mac Cabe