

# 40 MINS TO FIND BLOOD FOR MUM DYING ON OP TABLE

## Court told of 'cardiac event'

TRAGIC  
Nora  
Hyland

BY GARETH NAUGHTON

**A WOMAN had to wait 40 minutes for a blood transfusion after suffering major blood loss during an emergency caesarean section.**

An inquest into 31-year-old Nora Hyland's death heard an emergency supply of blood was not kept in the operating theatre at the National Maternity Hospital at the time.

Mrs Hyland, a Malaysian woman living at Charlotte Quay in South Dublin, died on the operating table on February 13 last year.

She had suffered a cardiac event an hour after the section was completed.

Sara Antoniotti, barrister for the family, told coroner Dr Brian Farrell an internal review carried out by the hospital after the incident made recommendations which all related to the availability of blood.

The court heard the emergency caesarean section was carried out on Mrs Hyland on February 12 after a drop in the foetal heart rate was recorded at 11.05pm.

Dr Nikhil Purandare, then specialist

registrar in obstetrics at the NMH, successfully delivered the baby and closed up the abdomen.

At 12.03am, he noted that Mrs Hyland had lost approximately one litre of blood. He requested that blood be ordered from the lab starting with O-negative blood while units matching Mrs Hyland's type were sourced.

He told the court that he would have expected the O-negative blood to arrive more quickly. Mrs Hyland continued to lose blood in the following minutes. When

consultant obstetrician Dr Shane Higgins arrived at 12.28am, he decided that a laparotomy was necessary to stop the bleeding. Blood loss was estimated at two litres at this point, he said.

The laparotomy was commenced at 12.35am and took 10 minutes. Dr Purandare had earlier told the court that blood loss was estimated at 3.5 litres following this procedure. The blood transfusion was commenced at 12.40am, 37 minutes after he had ordered it.

The patient was considered stable after

the laparotomy. However, at 1.05am she suffered a sudden and unexpected collapse. Resuscitation attempts failed and she was pronounced dead at 2.11am.

Dr Higgins said Mrs Hyland's blood pressure, pulse and oxygen levels were normal before her collapse and she had received a blood transfusion.

He told the court the hospital has been unable to establish the cause of death.

Mrs Hyland was estimated to have had 5.5 to 6 litres of blood circulating in her system. Under cross-examination, Dr Higgins conceded that a loss of 3.5 litres of blood would be "an enormous insult".

He said it would have been preferable to have hung the O-negative blood "much sooner", and probably before he had arrived in theatre. At the time, a supply of O-negative blood was not kept in the theatre at the NMH, the court heard.

The court heard from Mrs Hyland's husband Stephen that the baby, Frederick, was their first child and he is doing well.

The inquest was adjourned for further hearing on January 27.

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COUPLE  
Stephen  
and Nora  
Hyland



THRIVING  
Frederick



COURT John Murray

## Ex-mayor is guilty of teen sex assaults

BY GEORGINA O'HALLORAN

A FORMER lord mayor of Cork was convicted yesterday of sexually assaulting a teenage girl in the 1990s.

Retired taxi driver John Murray denied six counts of assault between March 1996 and October 1998.

The victim and members of her family broke down in tears as the jury delivered a unanimous guilty verdict against the 83-year-old on one count and majority guilty verdicts on a further four.

Murray, of Gregg Road in the city, showed no emotion as the jury delivered its verdict.

The victim told how Murray kissed her on the neck and lips and groped her breasts leaving her "shocked and frozen with fear".

Judge Sean O'Donnabhain remanded Murray in custody to appear before Cork Circuit Criminal Court on December 2.



TALENT Leona Lewis

## Leona is fine with life out of spotlight

BY EAMON DONOGHUE

X FACTOR winner Leona Lewis has no fears of life without fame.

The London-based singer won the ITV series in 2006 but hasn't lived up to those highs since.

The 28-year-old said: "If my celebrity status disappears tomorrow then I'll be completely fine with that."

Leona added she still relies on the advice of her ex mentor Simon Cowell.

She told Radar Magazine: "Simon has always told me to trust my instincts.

"I did train in opera initially. I didn't actually switch to contemporary until I was in my teens.

"I told him I'd love to make an opera album, and he was like, 'Yes, you should, at some point, blah blah blah, whatever'.

"I don't think he took it seriously. Perhaps he will now."

# CRIMINAL KILLED SCHOOLBOY WITH HIS CAR



PLEA Ruadhan Tracey

BY CONOR GALLAGHER

A CRIMINAL yesterday admitted careless driving causing the death of a 14-year-old boy.

Ruadhan Tracey, who is serving an eight-year sentence, pleaded guilty at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court.

The 31-year-old's car hit

Conor Hickey on the Fassaugh Road, Cabra, North Dublin, on December 2, 2011.

He will be sentenced on March 12 after prosecuting counsel asked for the case to be adjourned until after the anniversary of the death.

The court heard Tracey, of Lagore Green, Dunshaughlin, Co Meath, was accused of

hitting the boy who was on the way to visit his friend. The victim died in hospital the following day.

Tracey is in jail for a string of offences including stabbing a shop worker with a syringe, leaving him in need of 24-hour care.

The father of one was also sentenced for holding up

nine shops, eight of them within a five-week period around Christmas 2011.

Most of these horrific attacks followed a similar pattern.

Tracey would enter the shop, threaten to give staff "the virus" and then flee with money from the cash register.



VICTIM Conor Hickey