

Car clocking accused is told: Stay off DoneDeal

A MAN accused of clocking a car's mileage by illegally tampering with the vehicle's odometer before allegedly selling it online has been ordered to refrain from using the website DoneDeal.ie, as part of his bail conditions.

James O'Donoghue, 28, was brought before Limerick District Court yesterday charged with dishonestly inducing someone into buying a Toyota Avensis, having knowingly tampered with its odometer to reduce the car's genuine mileage.

Mr O'Donoghue is alleged to have reduced the mileage by more than 170,000km, to increase the its value, with the

By David Raleigh

intention of making a financial gain for himself or to cause financial loss to another person. The car was allegedly advertised for sale through the second-hand sales website DoneDeal.ie.

Mr O'Donoghue, of Carrigroe, Mitchelstown, Co. Cork, is alleged to have sold the car to the injured party at Roxboro Road, Limerick, on December 9, 2014.

Detective Garda Paul Crowley gave evidence that he arrested Mr O'Donoghue in Mitchelstown at 3.35pm on Monday. Mr O'Donoghue 'made no reply' after being charged at

the Roxboro Road Garda Station in Limerick, Detective Garda Crowley added.

The State is expected to say that the injured party suffered a financial loss of €3,000 after buying the car for more than €9,000. It is alleged that the buyer only became aware of the alleged clocking of the car last January, after it was serviced at a garage.

Judge Marian O'Leary granted Mr O'Donoghue bail on his own bond of €300, and on a number of strict conditions, including that 'he does not use or operate on DoneDeal.ie'.

The accused was remanded to appear in court again on September 13 next.

Dr Mark Dooley



MORAL MATTERS

Change can be painful – but it will give way to fresh peace

AND what is life except a series of transitions? We move from one great change to the next hoping that each will be as smooth as possible. Then, after the tumult, the dust settles and we are restored to a period of peace.

Each life, yours and mine, is characterised by this sequence of change and certainty. For a while, we are certain of our circumstances, confident in our expectations. But then, there comes a day when our certainty is undermined as we pass through yet another transition.

Our eldest is about to face his first serious transition in life. In one month, he will leave primary school for the last time.

Naturally, he is beset with anxiety for his future and hesitating before the unknown. In my clumsy attempt to offer some consolation, I told him that he had already experienced one of the most frightening transitions in life.

'Which was what?' he inquired, to which I answered: 'Your birth.'

He didn't buy it because, as he said, he couldn't remember the trauma of leaving his mother's womb. But the spectre of secondary school is real and present and is, thus, a source of tangible terror. It may take us a few years to overcome the shock of being ousted from the womb, but because it is accompanied by amnesia we don't give it a second thought.

At some deep level, however, we never quite get over that primal fear of being evicted from our certainties. That is why, as each big change occurs, we try desperately to cling to what we know. We fear rupture and the unforeseen consequences that flow from it.

The great transitions of life all involve leaving: leaving the womb, school, home, job, life. To leave means saying 'goodbye' to all that you have known and loved. It means departing with only your memories left intact.

'I wish I could take my entire class to secondary school,' says our son. What he fears most, I suspect, is not the new school but having to say 'goodbye'. While this may not be his first major transition, it is the first time he has had to bid farewell to his friends and to a life that offered safety and security. It is never easy to say 'goodbye'.

Even when departing from your loved ones for a short spell, the moment of farewell is always the most traumatic. But when you have to say 'goodbye' to something forever, it is nothing less than a minor death.

And yet, life equips us for the journey. We face our traumas, let go of our certainties and, sometimes, feel the ground shift beneath our feet.

Sometimes, we feel as though we will never recover from those difficult transitions which no person can avoid.

But somehow, we do recover. Somehow, we manage to put our lives back together, piece by little piece. And, in so doing, we adapt to our new circumstances as best we can.

Such is the work of healing, of caring for the soul. In loss, we somehow find the strength to carry on, to establish new certainties and a new level of peace. It is always difficult, but we manage in the best way we know.

That is why, when we have them, we should enjoy every second of those periods of peace. Those are the times when we are settled, when we feel secure in our lives. Why waste those moments worrying about the changes ahead when you can savour the joy of such precious peace?

OUR son will soon say 'goodbye' to all those people who have shaped him so profoundly. He will pack up his things and walk from that school into a new but unfamiliar life. He will leave behind his brothers, his teachers, his friends.

As he does so, all our lives will change. Each day, we shall be reminded that the life we thought would last forever is no more. Each day, we shall look back longingly to a time of certainty and stability.

But then, one morning, we shall awake to find that we are no longer looking back. It will suddenly strike us that we have become used to our new life, and that all transitions eventually give way to new certainties, to fresh peace. And in that peace, we shall forget the trauma of this transition, remembering only those moments which sparkle with joy.

If only it were as easy to endure as it is to say.

mark.dooley@dailymail.ie

FREE ENTRY

TO THE JFK MEMORIAL PARK AND ARBORETUM
NEW ROSS, CO. WEXFORD



To celebrate and honour the 100th anniversary of the birth of US President John F. Kennedy on May 29th, the Irish Daily Mail, in association with the Office of Public Works is offering readers free entry to the JFK Memorial Park and Arboretum, New Ross, Co Wexford.

Born in Brookline, Massachusetts on May 29, 1917, President Kennedy was the youngest president ever elected to office. To commemorate his centennial year, the JFK Memorial Park and Arboretum is spearheading a Memorial Concert and Military Salute to honour the occasion.

WHAT TO SEE:

Dedicated to the memory of John Fitzgerald Kennedy, President of the United States from 1960 to 1963, the Arboretum is a plant collection of international standing. It covers 252 hectares (623 acres) on the southern slopes and summit of Slieve Coillte. It contains 4,500 types of trees and shrubs from all temperate regions of the world, planted in botanical sequence. There are tearooms, a picnic site, play area, maze, pony and trap service (seasonal) and a buggy to facilitate disabled visitors. A road provides access to the summit at 271m from which there are panoramic views. (Guided tours daily at 11am and 3pm) JFK arboretum is managed by the Office of Public Works.

Check out our website: opw.ie/en/heritage for more great sites to visit.

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Irish Daily Mail



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